

THE Japan Weekly Mail.

A POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL, AND LITERARY JOURNAL.

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YOKOHAMA, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1874.

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In compliance with the wishes of many of our Subscribers at the out-ports we shall issue henceforth, apart from, but enclosed in, "The Japan Weekly Mail," a summary of the telegrams which have been published in the course of the current week in our Daily Edition.

BIRTH.

At Yokohama, on the 10th May, the Wife of W. M. STRACHAN, Esq., of a Son.

DIED.

At No. 172, Bluff, May 14th, 1874, of Diphtheria, THOMAS FREDERICK, the eldest son of Frederick and Mary Dickins, aged four years and one month.

Notes of the Week.

RACE week is holiday week and thus welcome enough, apart from the pleasures which the Races give. The weather has been rather against their success this spring, the first day only being fair. Yesterday was almost wintry, and the rain of last night, though not heavy, has made the course more or less so. We have omitted our usual market report this week, not, indeed, because it was holiday time, but because it does not require two fair pages of a journal to say that the transactions since our last issue have been of a very limited nature, and that the residents have agreed to forget an unprofitable and ungrateful trade in far more congenial and pleasant amusements.

It is understood that the Government has endorsed—to use the convenient phraseology of our cousins—the Formosan Expedition, and news has reached us of the arrival of some of the vessels at Amoy, where an application to the Chinese authorities procured them supplies of coal and water. That the Government was right in taking this course is clear enough; indeed, it was the only one open to it. The question of discipline must be postponed until later, and it would be utterly idle for a foreigner to speculate how it will be arranged. We presume the troops will be thrown upon the Island of Formosa, and that the vessels which carried them thither, after landing the provisions and military stores, will leave the coast, which is far too open to permit of their remaining during the the south-west monsoon. The work of punishing the offending aboriginal tribes will then begin, and it will be curious to know how it will be carried on, and in what light the Chinese will regard it. That they will permit a permanent occupation of any part of the Island is in the highest degree improbable; but they may trust to time and fever as natural allies before taking overt action, even should the Japanese manifest any disposition or desire to remain, which may be doubted if the objections of China to such a course are plainly stated. The return of Okuma is anxiously looked for. Okubo returned last Friday,

Who put my man in the stocks?
.....Regan, I have good hopes
Thou did'st not know of it.

The affair of last Wednesday week at the British Legation has been fully accepted in the light in which we exhibited it at first, though there has been—as there always will be on such occasions—an instance or two of that kind of posturing in writers on the subject which reminds one of the manner in which the Japanese wrestlers approach each other before the

tussle—slapping their legs with amusing ferocity. The affair was obviously due to insolent and ignorant stupidity on the part of the police sergeant in charge of the watch, and the brutality of the cloud of policemen who overpowered Hooper with their staves—it is a thousand pities he could not have given a few of them a good British one, two, three—shows the innate brutality of the lower class *samurai*, though it is pretty clear that the only chance the undersized police would have in dealing with one of the amiable giants of the Legation-guard would be with the assistance of staves. The apology offered to Sir Harry Parkes by the Minister for Foreign Affairs expiates the insult, and is the precious balm poured on Hooper's broken head. But the British Minister is hardly likely to accept this without a representation that a flagrant outrage has been committed upon the sanctity of his Legation, and a demand that the offenders shall be exemplarily punished, the punishment made known in an effective manner, and guarantees given against the repetition of so grave an offence. But that the words "Attack on the British Legation" should have been used in connection with the affair is much to be regretted. They give a colour to it which is not a true colour, and create impressions abroad which are again exaggerated as they pass from mouth to mouth, and thus work a considerable amount of harm. Things are quite bad enough as they stand without any necessity for making them worse than they actually are.

THE Kobe and Osaka line of Railway was opened last Monday in inauspicious weather; but everything went off well. The receipts were \$442 on the first day, and \$525 on the second, and it is to be hoped that we shall see a steady increase in these figures. The goods traffic should be larger than on our line here, and we trust it will be encouraged by a low tariff. The Kobe papers make much outcry about the too short notice given of the opening of the line, but it may perhaps have been considered desirable to avoid too much crowd and pressure as the officials are new to their work. It is good, too, that the opening was not delayed for any ceremonial. Japan is under a cloud at this moment, and practical business tending to dispel or work through it is far better than pageants and compliments. The Chief Commissioner still remains in Osaka, and we hope that he will push on the section to Kiôto with his usual energy.

A MOST melancholy occurrence took place on Saturday evening last, at the Camp of the Royal Marines, on the Eastern Bluff, of which the following are the particulars:—

Reports of a pistol were heard in the North Camp, and immediately afterwards a private named Ingram and a young woman named Jeannie Anderson, with whom he had been keeping company, were found lying between two of the huts, the former shot through the head with a revolver which still remained in his hand, and the latter with a flesh wound in the left ear. They were immediately carried into hospital, where it was found that Ingram's wound could not but prove fatal, while that of the woman was not serious, and she was subsequently removed to the General Hospital. Ingram lingered until 5 on Monday morning, and then expired.

At the Coroner's Inquest held on the same day to enquire into the death of William James Ingram, a private in the Battalion of Royal Marines stationed in the British Camp at the Bluff, the following verdict was arrived at—"The deceased came to his death by a wound self-inflicted, whilst in a state

of temporary insanity." The deceased was buried in the evening with military honours.

A new foreign paper called *The Tokai Journal*, which we presume is intended as a comic one, has been started in Yedo, and the first number of it lies before us. Our reasons for thinking it comic will be understood from the following extracts. In an article on "The Flight of Birds," which the author wittily says "replace in Japan as objects of daily sight and common interest, the horse and donkeys of European cities"—we find the following passage:—"The first few turns of the screw set the water in rapid rotation, and the water continuing to rotate by its inertia, the motion of the screw is rapidly diminished, so that the screw revolves with great rapidity." This is certainly the funniest paragraph we have read for many a long day:—except, perhaps, the following, which will be found in an article on "The Japanese Parliament." "If we take as an example, England, a country which has frequently been subjected to foreign rulers with foreign ideas, we find that a Parliament, or its equivalent, was one of the earliest institutions which took root in the country." A little further on we come to this:—"The stride is a giant one and opens to this country a future, which, as it is used, may cause Japan to advance far more than any of us imagine, even in our wildest dreams of the nation's prosperity." Elsewhere occurs this sentence:—"It matters not to us if the representative body be called a Council of State or a Parliament." We presume not, indeed. As news we are told that the entire village of Hakone is burnt down. "Last year there were about seventy foreigners at this place during the month of September, who will now have to seek other resorts to recuperate their failing energies." Speaking of the Yokohama races, the Journal says "Much of the old blood which used to enliven the race-course during training time has returned after recuperating in Europe and America," &c. Does this apply to the horses or their owners? To be called "old blood" is a little hard on the owner of a horse, though possibly the acceptance of the term in this sense involves less difficulty than supposing that the horses have gone to Europe and America "to recuperate"—a favourite word apparently.

Perhaps, however, there is nothing in the whole paper so truly amusing as the following, which seems to us a masterpiece of wit:—

"All communications respecting subscriptions, advertisements, and accounts, should be addressed 'To the Manager,' as above."

We have said enough, however, to persuade our readers that if the *Tokai Journal*—which by the way says it is to be "a strictly non-political, but literary and social family newspaper," whatever that may mean—continues as it has begun, *Punch's* vocation is gone.

WE publish this week the very interesting and valuable Trade Report for 1873 of Mr. Russell Robertson, II. B. M. Consul for Kanagawa. On account of its extreme length, however,—a feature with which we are far from reproaching it—we must reserve our comments upon it, and the tables appended to it, until next week.

It is proposed to give a performance of sacred music in Christ Church on Wednesday next for the purpose of paying off the balance of debt due to the Acting Consular Chaplain for the removal of the organ from the body of the church in which it formerly stood to the recess which it now occupies. The practice of giving such performances in churches is quite consonant with English custom and in harmony with English feeling, as those know who have attended or read the accounts of the annual festivals at Hereford, Gloucester and Worcester. The performance will consist exclusively of sacred music, and it is hoped that the objects of those who have undertaken it will be fulfilled.

SIR Rutherford Alcock happily called Japan the "Paradise of Babies" on account of the immunity enjoyed here by children from the restraints and discipline which are imposed and deemed necessary elsewhere. But if our observations were

limited to the foreign settlements of Japan we should say the country was the Paradise of Bankers and Bankers' clerks, who celebrate Saints' days, Race days, Regatta days, and all foreign *Matsouris* with a devotion which is not only an excellent example to the community, but which ensures it a number of holidays wholly unknown elsewhere. Far from having any objections to this, we think it delightful, nor do we see that, if all close, any one suffers by the custom. But it is a blessed exception to the ordinary lot of toiling humanity.

Punch is capital this week, and the two first cartoons the best we have had for many a long day. A polyglottist like *Punch*, however, has no business to be wrong in his etymologies, and "Mumpos" must be called rather the Greek than the Latin form of Mumps. The mushrooms are delicious; but, say what we may, there are some thirty-three millions of people in this country to be held together and pushed along. There have been some bad mistakes made of late, that is clear; and the untractable disposition lately shewn in regard to questions which should obviously have been treated in a far different manner is observable and lamentable enough. Japan wants friends, and she is alienating them; assistance, and she spurns it; advice, and she takes it from those who have their own and not her interests at heart. So long as this disposition lasts we shall have all these troubles and see these mistakes; but we hope for better times. The besetting sin of journalism is that it rarely, if ever, makes a fair estimate of the difficulties which surround administrative action—action which is often the necessary resultant of mixed and antagonistic forces, and only to be justified as such.

A very full meeting of Members of the Asiatic Society assembled on Wednesday evening in the usual room in the Grand Hotel. In the absence of the author Mr. Satow read a paper by Mr. C. W. Lawrence, of H. B. M. Legation, descriptive of a recent journey in the interior of which he had taken very full and instructive notes. On the termination of this paper the Rev. the Secretary read another by Captain Bellknap of the U.S.S. *Tuscarora*, giving some very interesting details of his passage across the Pacific, and of the soundings made under his directions in connection with the scheme of laying a cable from the western shores of America to this coast. At the invitation of the President Captain Bellknap subsequently explained the diagram exhibited in order to show the undulations of the sea-bottom between these two coasts, and illustrated, by a model of the apparatus used, the method of taking these deep sea soundings.

THE *Tchihatchoff* which arrived on Wednesday from Shanghai has brought intelligence of a serious riot which has occurred there. It would seem that the French Municipal Council had decided upon opening one or more roads through the grounds on which the Ningpo Joss House stands and which is very generally underlaid by old graves. This measure elicited the greatest indignation from the Ningpo Chinese, and ended in an incendiary attack upon the dwelling-house of M. Percebois Inspector of roads, which they subsequently gutted and burnt. They afterwards burnt the stables of M. Charrier and several Chinese houses which were situated in the same neighbourhood. The volunteer force was called out at 9 o'clock P.M. but the intelligence of their preparations had already reached the rioters who dispersed quickly. The incendiarism seems to have been of a most determined character while the riot lasted, and the English Police captured some of the incendiaries while about to fire the houses they had resolved to destroy. Four Chinamen were shot during the riot. A party of sailors from the U.S. ship *Ashuelot*, and a smaller detachment from the French gunboat *Couleuvre* assisted the Shanghai volunteers in restoring order. One hundred and fifty Chinese soldiers were also sent by the Chehsien who was himself present.

The *North China Herald* says:—

The affair is clearly referable to the excitement about the roads, so readers at a distance need give it no extended significance. But it remains to be seen whether, after the serious proportions it has assumed, the excitement will at once sub-

side or whether further trouble may ensue before it is finally quelled. It is likely that the display of force made last night will deter the rioters from further outbreak—despite their threats, loudly uttered, that they would not stop till they had burned down the Municipal Hall. It will show them that—apart from any question as to the merits of the case—Foreigners of all nationalities will unite to stop lawless violence.

THE rise of many literary and scientific institutions of late years has produced a passion among some of their members for placing an array of capital letters after their names, significative of their membership of these bodies, though it is not usual for decent Englishmen to claim distinctions of this nature unless the institution is one with a royal foundation. There is no objection to a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, or the Royal Asiatic Society, placing the initial letters indicative of his fellowship after his name on the title page of a book, or in the list of members of any other scientific society to which he may belong, though so great is English reticence in this matter that out of the many Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society who belong to our local Asiatic Society, not one has permitted his name to appear followed by the very respectable initials indicative of his fellowship with that body. The Royal Society, of course, stands alone, and the proud F. R. S. which usually follows the name of a Fellow, even sometimes on his card, is little less valued than the M. P. the C. B., or even K. C. B., which tell of honourable service or distinction in other fields. But it is very uncommon to have a large array of letters placed after one's name the meaning of which is wholly unintelligible to the general public, and we have therefore marked with some wonder and amusement the following advertisement taken from a valuable London journal:—

"THE JADE CHAPLET. In twenty-four beads. A collection of songs, ballads &c. (from the Chinese) by—
M.N.C.B.R.A.S."

Now, we venture to think that whatever local value this imposing array of letters may have, it will be somewhat unintelligible in England. A gentleman thus decorated may enjoy some such local distinction as adheres to the member of a literary and scientific institution in a country town, a cricket club, a society of templars, or one of those amusing clubs whose members are seen in the spring in England dressed in Lincoln green, with brigand hat and feather and archery decorations; but hardly more than this. We trust that whatever the Society this gentleman may be identified with, it will take steps to deprecate any such use, by one of its members, of the tokens of his membership as is not only calculated to bring him into ridicule, but the respectable, and possibly august, but generally unknown, body to which he belongs.

It is not often that the *Saturday Review* can be caught tripping in matters of fact or allusion. But an article published in one of its recent numbers on the case with which the tour of the world may now be made, says that on the traveller's arrival in Japan *Yokohama may be ascended*. But this is not much worse than the mistake made in a recent paragraph in the *New York Herald* which runs as follows:—

Additional despatches from Yokohama by the steamship *Alaska* state that an eruption of the volcano *Fuusi-yama*, about twenty miles from the new capital took place on the 8th of February.

NAGASAKI.

Several rumours have been current here during the week to the effect that the British steamer *Crocus* had been sold, through Messrs. Alt & Co., to the Japanese Government. We believe they had their origin in the fact that Messrs. Alt & Co. received an offer of \$235,000 for her, but on behalf of the owners they declined to sell at this figure. She is now loading coals for Shanghai, and will probably leave on Monday next.—*Nagasaki Express*.

The American steamer *Shaffsbury*, which arrived here on the 7th instant, consigned to Messrs. Henry Gribble & Co., was sold to-day to the Japanese Government, and changed her flag

this afternoon. We understand that she is to be employed for the present in the Formosan expedition.—*Ibid*.

The four expeditionary vessels, consisting of the corvette *Nitsin-kan*; the gun-boat *Teibu-kan*; and the two chartered Japanese steamers *Meikumaru* and *Mikuni-maru*, which were detained here by the rough weather on Saturday and Sunday last, left for Amoy on the evening of the latter day. The two latter vessels conveyed the stores, &c., and about two thousand soldiers, as mentioned in our last issue.—*Ibid*.

Amongst the passengers who arrived by the P. M. steamer *Golden Age*, on the 3rd instant, from Yokohama, is Okubo, the Minister for Home Affairs. We learn that the object of his visit here, was to have an interview with Okuma, the Minister of Finance, who is in charge of the Formosa Expedition, and to deliver to the latter some instructions which he brought with him. Okubo, accompanied by General Le Gendre, returned to Osaka on the 6th instant, by the Japanese steamer *Corun-maru*, and from thence they will proceed to Tokio by another steamer. Okuma, chief, and Saigo second in command, still remain here.—*Ibid*.

HIOGO.

WE have received a telegram to the effect that a large fire took place in Kioto on Sunday last, by which several hundred houses were destroyed, and that there had been no other fire of the same magnitude in Kioto for ten years past. No further particulars have come to hand up to the time of going to press.—*Hio-go News*.

The Kobe and Osaka section of the Japanese Imperial Railways was opened on Monday.—at least on and from that day the ticket offices have been open, tickets have been sold and passengers carried. Why the Government should have maintained the strict secrecy it did up to the last moment, concerning the whole affair, it is most probably mere waste of time to try and understand, but it will at any rate have the satisfaction of feeling that the heavens were so much gratified by the efforts that were made to render the occasion as gloomy as possible that the clerk of the weather had apparently received instructions to cast his thickest wet blanket over all the proceedings of the day, for more miserable weather in this country for the second week in May it would be difficult to conceive. Heavy rain, with strong gusts of wind from the North-East, lasted without intermission from morning till night, heavy mists shrouded the hills, the whole country seemed sodden with water, few Japanese were to be seen either here or in Osaka, and the people seemed altogether desirous the Government should be supported in carrying out its wish for a secret opening, inasmuch as they were apparently ignorant of the existence of any such thing as a Railway, and the trains, with a few exceptions, presented but a beggarly array of empty benches. There is very little to report concerning the line, beyond what we have already said before, but since we were last along it, some scaffolding has been taken away, some station buildings have been springing into existence, and things generally are gradually assuming more of the appearance which they may be expected to bear permanently. Osaka Station is by far the most imposing building we have yet seen connected with the enterprise, and appears perfectly capable of accommodating all the traffic which may flow through it for the next twenty years. Everything connected with the running of the trains was, so far as we know, or could see, perfectly satisfactory. Our attention was called to the fact that both the carriage doors were kept locked while the train was in motion, but two or three small instances of excess of zeal must be looked for at first. There is altogether also a most commendable civility on the part of all the officials, which should not be allowed to pass without recognition, and we trust the lesson of it will not be thrown away upon such Telegraph clerks, Custom House tidewaiters, &c., as may chance to make use of the line. The trains started and arrived punctually to time so far as we observed, and although we were a little surprised at the system which was so carefully pursued by the Government of carrying out a strict policy of total official indifference

to the event—a policy for which we are at a loss to conceive any sufficient reason and which we certainly think quite a mistaken one as far as the interests of the line are concerned—we have nothing but praise for the way in which the actual working of the traffic was carried on.—*Hio-go News*.

NEWCHWANG.

From Messrs. Knight & Co.'s Circular of the 1st May, we learn that the report in reference to a revolution in Corea was "generally believed by the Chinese;" and that news was expected in a few days, as to whether the country would again permit Western Manufactures to cross its frontiers.

SHIPPERS OF SILK.

Per P. & O. steamer *Madras*, despatched 19th May, 1874.

	England.	France.	Italy.
Strachan and Thomas...	12	—	—
Raud & Co. ...	—	101	—
G. Bolmida ...	—	—	4
Sundries ...	—	21	—
Total ...	12	122	4
Grand Total ...	...	138 bales.	...

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

YOKOHAMA STATION.

19th May, 1874.

Statement of Traffic Receipts, for the week ending Sunday, 10th May, 1874.

Passengers	52,290	Amount.....	\$8,628.19
Goods, Parcels &c.....			509.78
Total.....			\$9,137.97
Average per mile per week.....			507.62

18 Miles Open.

Corresponding week 1873.

Number of Passengers 35,355 Amount \$10,510.93

THE ASIATIC COMMERCIAL COMPANY.

A REPORT has recently been presented to Congress by the Committee on Commerce, upon a Bill referred to them for the Incorporation of a Company inaugurated in San Francisco, which proposes to do business in Japan, under the title of the Asiatic Commercial Company. The bulk of the Report, which is printed in the *San Francisco Bulletin*, appears to be quotations from a communication addressed to Congress by the promoters of the scheme; but as the Committee on Commerce recommend the passage of the Incorporation Act, and speak in laudatory terms of the proposal offered for their consideration, they must be held equally responsible with its authors for the statements made, and deductions drawn, in the document they reproduce. It is not often that we have the pleasure, when discussing a subject in which our American friends here are interested, of treating it in a manner which entirely meets their approbation. But, in characterizing this Report as mischievous and misleading, and stigmatizing many of the statements of the promoters of the Company as absolute falsehoods, we are certain that, on this occasion, we express their sentiments as well as our own.

That we do not exaggerate, the very first paragraph of the prospectus, quoted by the Committee, sufficiently proves:—

"A very large part of the trade in Japan is carried on through agents authorized by the Government of that country. The principal articles of export are tea, silk, copper, etc., and the trade in these is, to a very large degree, controlled by three English, one French, and one German house, in all, five mercantile firms. The most extensive of these is known as a branch of the Oriental Banking Company, London, but whose principal place of business is in Yokohama. Each of those five companies is chartered by its own Government, and, in its dealings with the Japanese, acts apparently by authority from home."

It is uncertain whether the "agents" in the first sentence, signify, in the intention of the writers, native or foreign agents, so we must give them the benefit of the doubt and presume that native agents are meant, which is not

absolutely inaccurate. But Tea has never, to any one's knowledge, been exported by Government agents, native or foreign; the trade in Silk has only once been tampered with—in the time of the Shōgunate;—Rice, the staple in which most of the Government business has been recently done, is omitted from the list; and it is not a little singular that, in this and in Copper, the principal "Government agent" employed has been an American house! To proceed: the "three English, one French and one German" houses referred to are not mercantile firms—they are Banks; trade is not "controlled" by them,—the operations of private traders, American or other, are assisted by them and could hardly be carried on without that assistance; the principal place of business of the Oriental Banking Company is certainly not Yokohama; and none of these Banks act, either in reality or appearance, by authority from any home Government.

With reference to this last point, it is noticeable here, and throughout the whole of the document, that its authors are either ignorant, or purposely ignore, the meaning and object of an Act of Incorporation, until at least they are compelled to admit the truth that the privilege asked "neither will nor can ever become, in any sense, in the least degree burthensome to the Government." They never state the fact, that Acts of Incorporation are intended to protect the customers of an Incorporated Company, by extending the liability of its shareholders; the prospectus being intended to attract shareholders, this point is not inconveniently obtruded on their notice. But, lest Congress should entertain a doubt of some possible liability attaching to the Government's granting the charter, this denial of the Government's responsibility is reiterated, in another sentence, in the clearest possible words:—"in no event shall the United States be liable to any person, corporation or foreign power for any matter or thing growing out of the passage of this Act." Surely, this sauce in which Messrs. JAMES OTIS, ELISHA E. RICE and their *marmitons* propose to cook the American Eagle is equally good for the French or German bird, or, for that matter, for the British Lion.

If they know this, and admit it—as they do—their use of the word "apparently" in stating that the foreign banks now established here "act apparently by authority from home," amounts to an accusation of fraud on the part of these establishments—or at least, of misrepresentation—in any dealings they may have had with the Japanese Government; fraud, or misrepresentation, in which the British, French and German Governments are accomplices. And they seek to persuade their own Government to become their accomplice in the perpetration of yet one more similar iniquity—on the principle, we suppose, that "they didn't know everything down in Judee" and that it is a smart thing to "follow a multitude to do evil." For in plain English, what they say to Congress is simply this:—"Pass our Act of Incorporation, let us go and delude these liberal-minded Japanese statesmen into the idea that we are your authorized agents, and that you are responsible to them for our undertakings. We will go into big things in tea, silk, copper, rice, ironclads, colleges, farms, docks, railways, mints and lighthouses, etc. Then, if we make profits, we will pocket them; if we "bust up" and the liberal-minded statesmen find themselves at the top of our schedule, and come upon you as principals in our firm, you have only to point to the article in the charter "in no event shall the United States be liable, etc., etc." Congress may pass the Act, overlooking this interpretation of its meaning; but we very much mistake Mr. BINGHAM, if he would not take care

that the Japanese Government thoroughly understood it, before entrusting its orders to the Asiatic Commercial Company.

Our local readers may not thank us for proceeding to point out further inaccuracies in this manifesto which they are equally capable with ourselves of detecting ; but we write for America as well as for Japan, and they will bear with us, in our continuing to expose its errors, for the behoof of readers in that country. These inaccuracies are multitudinous. Americans are stated to have laboured "under great disadvantages" in carrying on business here. The leading American firm—Messrs. OTIS, RICE & Co. inform Congress—"has been compelled to admit as head of its house, and principal active partner, an Englishman." The business of American houses in Japan—they say—"is transacted largely through foreign companies or firms." Americans have to "submit to the most exorbitant exactions" in exchange, because it is all conducted through European cities. The English, French, and Germans have absorbed all the Government business in Japan, and Americans are excluded therefrom. So much for the past and present. For the future, it is prophesied that the passage of the Bill will "bring trade and business to the shores of the United States which now are diverted in other directions." That it will put Americans in Japan on a level with the people of Europe, who now stand there far above them. That Americans will be relieved from the "humiliation" of doing business through foreign houses—(the "humiliation," that is, of selling their bills to English Banks). "Persons with ample means" will immediately embark in business in Japan, who will not risk their capital without this pseudo-governmental endorsement. The prejudices of the Japanese would be at once overcome by the simple process of incorporating this Company. The "kindly disposition towards America" felt by the "liberal minded persons" now in power here "should not be jeopardized by a failure to pass this simple Act." And to sum up, in the exact words of the Report ; its passage "will give Americans (and it is the only thing that it will give them) the superior position in Japan to which they are justly entitled."

As we have already intimated, were we writing only for local readers, we might have spared ourselves the pains. For none know better than American merchants here, and indeed, their well-informed correspondents at home—that not a single one of these statements is true ; nor is a single one of the smooth things prophesied likely to come to pass. We have picked out nearly every point in the Report or prospectus worth remark, save one ; and, with this exception they are all inaccurate. The exception is that "mainly by American exertions, Japan has been opened to the commerce of the world." We have hitherto believed this to be true, and merchants of all nationalities have always duly recognized the services of Commodore PERRY and Mr. TOWNSEND HARRIS. But MARK TWAIN tells us of a man who was such a persistent and consistent liar all his life, that when he hanged himself with a paper on his breast, in his own handwriting, stating that no one but himself had any hand in the deed, the jury found a verdict of "murdered by some person or persons unknown." And so, this isolated record of a truth, in such context, almost shakes our old belief in it, and we want TOWNSEND HARRIS back again to confirm us in the notion that he ever existed.

We feel a delicacy in making any but needful personal appeals or allusions ; but far more powerful in America than our contradiction, would be that of the "leading American firm" which these people say was

"compelled to admit as head of its house, and principal active partner, an Englishman" in order to get any chance of doing business in Japan. Good service, too, might be done by a *New York Herald* reporter, if he would interview any merchant there well acquainted with Japan, and get a list of Americans who have gone home with fortunes made here during the last fifteen years. It would compare very favourably with any such list that could be procured in Europe. Comparison between Hong Lists of 1863 and 1873 would hardly—to take another test—show to the disadvantage of American houses. With regard to exchange operations, all the world knows that London is at present its monetary centre, and the establishment of the Asiatic Commercial Company would no more prevent English Banks buying American credits, than it would change the course of the Mexican Dollar. In truth, American credits are generally of such a class that the European Banks compete eagerly for them ; while we very much doubt whether they would ever be offered to an American Asiatic, or any other Company that can put forth such a prospectus as this before us. With regard to Japanese Government business, the less said the better, as none are more ready to admit than Americans who have resided in Japan since the ports were opened. The Lighthouses and the Railways were not placed in the hands of English Engineers, until the Japanese Government had made a sufficient number of experiments in similar transactions, the ironclad *Stonewall* remaining as by no means the least costly result. At present the education of the country, in more branches than one, is mainly in American, and we are glad to believe worthy hands. An American general accompanied the Embassy to Peking, and held a high post in a recent important expedition, whereof the end is not yet. American financiers have induced the Japanese Government to adopt a gold currency, in lieu of a silver one. The Mint is, it is true, under English control, and the Customs duties are hypothecated to English capitalists ; but these are exceptional arrangements, to guarantee loans which "persons with ample means" in America declined to furnish, when application was first made to them. Surely there is little cause for dissatisfaction in this record of the past. American merchants, as merchants, have been eminently successful, while the failures that have been made, and what consequent discredit has resulted from these failures, are together to be attributed to the very element,—a mere shadow of which this company seeks as a cloak—Governmental interference or assistance, direct or indirect.

We have, of course, no greater object in writing thus severely of the Asiatic Commercial Company, nor any less reason to welcome such an establishment, than any American here. If this Company, or any other, can bring five millions of dollars here, and employ them in developing Japanese trade, and opening up the country, in the name of Plutus, let it come ! But, knowing as we all do to our cost, how depressed is the Japan trade ; how uncertain the political condition of the Government ; how obstinately retrograde the present attitude of the "liberal-minded persons" in power ; we cannot allow such an absolute "wild-cat" as this to pass within our range, without attempting, at least, to bring it down. Of the Committee on Commerce which has reported in such favourable terms upon the scheme, we wish we could speak with more respect. Free men men throughout the world contemplate the experiment of republican institutions in America with sympathy and hope. But this contemplation often gives us grave cause for anxiety, and never graver than

when, as, on such an occasion as this, it is proved that, even in Congress, among the presumably most intelligent and trustworthy of her sons,

"blind and naked ignorance"

Delivers 'brawling judgments unashamed,
On all 'things' all 'day long."

For ourselves, we must confess, that if the destinies of England were committed to any body of men, out of which a Committee on Commerce could be selected who could draw up, or approve of, such a Report as this which we have been discussing, we should think it time for a revolution of some mild kind to supervene; before the occurrence of one of a more dreadful nature. But we are not as those who sorrow without hope. Congress has not yet passed the Bill; and even should that mistake be made, it is possible that the wisdom of which American legislators have been temporarily bereft, may not have entirely deserted American capitalists, and that the share list of the Asiatic Commercial Company may remain as void of names as its prospectus is void of truth.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR KANAGAWA FOR 1873.

BRITISH CONSULATE,
Kanagawa, April 14th, 1874.

SIR,—I have the honour to furnish you with a summary of the Trade for the year ended December 31st 1873 accompanied with the following Returns.

Enclosure I.—Return of the Import Trade.

Enclosure II.—Return of the Export Trade.

Enclosure III.—Return of Shipping.

Enclosure IV.—Return of Export and Import of Treasure.

Enclosure V.—Return of duties collected.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The figures for 1873 shew as follows:

Imports	...	...	\$19,585,758
Exports	...	...	\$15,095,218

Total ... \$34,630,976

being \$523,040 in excess of 1872.

The following are comparative tables for the two years.

	1873.	1872.
Imports	\$19,535,758	\$20,063,125
Exports	\$15,095,218	\$14,044,811
	\$34,630,976	\$34,107,936

or to particularize

Imports.		
	1873.	1872.
Cotton Manufactures	\$6,913,961	\$8,374,703
Woollen Manufactures	2,725,917	4,654,191
Mixed Cotton and Woollen	2,425,867	1,237,166
Arms and Ammunition	210,408	83,617
Metals	570,145	318,974
Miscellaneous, foreign	4,514,698	3,293,213
Miscellaneous, local	2,174,762	2,101,261
	19,535,758	20,063,125
Exports.		
	1873.	1872.
Silk, Raw	\$7,050,656	\$7,178,500
Silkworm egg Cards	3,082,360	1,920,787
Tea	3,339,941	3,061,625
Copper	206,955	443,378
Miscellaneous	1,465,306	1,440,521
	15,095,218	14,044,811

In Imports, Cotton manufactures exhibit a decrease of	...	\$1,460,742
Woollens a decrease of	...	1,928,274
Mixed Cottons and Woollens an increase of...	...	1,188,701
Arms and Ammunition	"	126,791
Metals	"	251,171
Miscellaneous foreign	"	1,221,485
Miscellaneous local	"	73,501

In Exports.

Silk shews a decrease of	...	\$127,844
Silkworm Egg Cards and increase of	...	1,111,573
Tea an increase of	...	278,316
Copper an increase of	...	236,423
Miscellaneous an increase of	...	24,785

It will thus be seen that the value of the import trade for 1873 falls short of that of 1872 by \$527,367. While the export trade for 1873 is in excess of that of 1872 by \$1,050,407. Shewing as before stated a total increase of \$523,040 in the value of the trade for 1873 over that of 1872.

Under the heading Cotton manufactures it appears that the trade in Grey Shirtings has kept very steady.

The figures of 1873 are rather in excess of those of 1872, but this is probably only owing to the fact that T. Cloths formed a separate item in the returns for 1872 and do not so appear in the tables for 1873.

There has been a considerably increased importation in Chintzes, Velvets, Turkey Reds, Muslins and Cambrics. This, however, may be accounted for by the stocks of most of these goods having been light at the end of 1872. Shipments to this during the past year have been considerably in excess of requirements and consequently business has been of an unprofitable character.

Cotton Yarn.—The large importation in 1872 which led to an accumulation of stock has certainly not been without its effects upon this staple, and the past year has been characterized by the supply being far in excess of the demand, leading to prices ruinous to importers.

In spite of the importation having fallen from 121,950 piculs in 1872 to 83,128 piculs in 1873, the stock is still more than ample for the requirements of the Japanese.

In Woollens there is a considerable falling off and Camlets once quite an important article under this heading have now dwindled down to comparative insignificance.

Flannel shews an import value of \$180,130 in 1873 as compared with \$1,284,160 in 1872. The excessive importation both of this article and of cloth in 1872 were initiated by too sanguine merchants both here and at home who conceived the idea that Japan would generally adopt European made garments. This however has proved to be a mistake for except at prices far below cost, the natives do not seem to be sufficiently wealthy to purchase. On such goods as these with the one exception of French Mousselines the losses incurred have been exceedingly heavy.

Blankets shew a diminution, for although this class of goods is much used by Japanese, competition amongst foreign merchants has rendered the trade in them unprofitable.

Under the heading Mixed Cottons and Woollens I have nothing particular to notice, except that a large increase is exhibited in Cotton and Woollen mixtures which may be partially accounted for from the probability that a large proportion of Orleans and Alpucas, the importation of which appears from the returns to have fallen off (but such I am assured by merchants is not the case), have been entered under this denomination.

As regards Metals I have to notice that Lead figures for a limited amount, but the trade in manufactured Iron has increased considerably, namely, from 58,891 piculs valued at \$285,982, imported in 1872 to 88,058 piculs and some odd cases valued at \$400,313 imported in 1873.

Pig Iron and Kentledge on the other hand shew a decline, the importation in 1873 only reaching 1048 piculs valued at \$1,351 against 10,381 piculs valued at \$23,357 imported in 1872. I cannot help thinking however that the difference in these figures is due more to the requirements of the Railways, Lighthouse, and docks at Yokoska than to any positive expansion of the trade.

The Imports of Arms, Ammunition and Accoutrements other than for purely departmental purposes is still on a reduced scale.

To go through the various items seriatim under the heading miscellaneous would result in no practical benefit. By far the larger part of the goods imported have left a considerable loss, and many now remain in godowns totally unsaleable.

Large importations of Kerosene oil have at times been made from America, and the trade though apparently unprofitable has largely increased.

On the whole the past year has, I am convinced, been a most unprofitable one for all merchants engaged in the import business.

The close of 1872 shewed a considerable increase in the consumption of many kinds of goods, especially Cotton and Woollen Mixtures, which for the most part were readily saleable at a fair profit. On the supposition that this demand would not only continue, but probably increase, orders for more goods were sent home which proved, however, to be far in excess of the requirements of the country.

The increase in the stock of French Mousselines consequent upon the excessive importation has been latterly a serious loss to importers.

While on this subject I cannot help mentioning that the French and German manufacturers seem to be running English manufacturers very hard in the production of certain goods specially adapted for this market. The clever and careful way in which patterns are imitated is an example well worthy of attention. The present position of the import trade of this port is far from healthy, and were it not that there are so few channels open for the employment of capital in other directions, I feel certain that many of our merchants would be glad to relinquish this branch of the trade altogether, except on commission for others.

The keen competition here, the facilities afforded by Banks, the easy system of financing at home, the want of sufficiently large markets to take off the enormous production of Lancashire and Yorkshire, all militate against the import trade being a successful one. Moreover, by means of the telegraph, though still in imperfect working order, goods for which there is any demand, or of which the stock is small, can be sent for and laid down in three and a half to four months, thus at once counteracting any benefit which in former days might have accrued in consequence of the length of voyage attendant upon sailing ships.

Indeed, it is not necessary to go to Europe for supplies, as on the least margin of profits being shewn China is only too ready to supply Yokohama with any goods she may have suitable for this market, Hongkong answering any demand for Yarn, whilst Shanghai soon responds to any enquiry for Shirtings.

I proceed to deal seriatim with some of the principal articles of export.

Silk.

The export for 1873 shews 11,869 piculs 48 cattie valued at \$7,050,656 against 10,252 piculs valued at \$7,158,500 exported in 1872.

The year opened unfavourably for exporters. Highly discouraging news from the home markets, and the unwillingness of Japanese silk dealers to accept any reduction on the high closing prices of December almost put a stop to business. Prices were then ruling as follows:—

Maebashi and Shinshiu :	Exc. at 4s. 6d.
Extra ...\$850 per picul	=31s. per lb.
Best.....\$750 to 790 per picul.	=29s. 3d. to 30s. 9d. per lb.
Medium \$680 to 720 "	=26s. 9d. to 28s. 3d. "
Inferior \$600 to 660 "	=23s. 9d. to 26s. 0d. "

Quotations for Oshiu as under were purely nominal:—

Extra ...\$820 per picul	=31s. 9d. per lb.
Best. ...\$770 to 790 per picul.	=30s. 1d. to 30s. 9d. per lb.
Medium \$720 to 750 "	=28s. 3d. to 29s. 3d. "
Inferior \$680 to 700 "	=26s. 9d. to 27s. 6d. "
Hamatszke\$640 to 680 "	=25s. 3d. to 26s. 9d. "

Towards the end of February the largest native holders commenced to consign to Europe for own account rather than accept the lower prices offered by exporters, and consignments were continued until near the close of the season.

Prices then gave way to the extent of thirty dollars per picul, and afterwards remained steady until close upon the arrival of the new silk when a further decline of twenty dollars per picul took place.

The opening prices of the new season's silk were:—

Maebashi and Shinshiu :	Exc. at 4s. 6½d.
Medium \$580 to \$600 per picul	=23s. 7d. to 24s. 4d. per lb.
Inferior \$550 per picul	=22s. 4d. per lb. do.

but afterwards gradually fell until the lowest point was reached in September, namely:—

Maebashi and Shinshiu :	Exc. at 4s. 4d.
Good ...\$600 to 640 per picul.	=23s. 2d. to 24s. 8d. per lb.
Medium \$550 to 580 "	=21s. 4d. to 22s. 6d. "
Inferior \$490 to 530 "	=19s. 0d. to 20s. 6d. "

Oshiu :	
Good ...\$550 to 600 per picul.	=21s. 3d. to 23s. 2d. per lb.
Hamatszke \$480 per picul.	=18s. 8d. per lb.

So far silk shipments had been fairly profitable to exporters, the new Maebashi of fine size being well liked in Europe and freely bought by manufacturers in place of Italian silks at a much lower cost. Prices were soon influenced here by the favourable out-turn of early shipments, and rapidly advanced until in December the highest prices were paid. Quotations at the close of the year were:—

Maebashi and Shinshiu :	Exc. at 4s. 3½d.
Extra ...\$710 to 740 per picul.	=27s. 4d. to 28s. 0d. per lb.
Best.....\$680 to 700 "	=25s. 10d. to 26s. 7d. "
Good ...\$640 to 660 "	=24s. 5d. to 25s. 2d. "
Medium \$600 to 620 "	=23s. 0d. to 23s. 8d. "
Inferior \$550 "	=21s. 3d. "

Oshiu :	
Best ...\$680 to 700 per picul.	=25s. 10d. to 26s. 7d. per lb.
Good ...\$630 to 660 "	=24s. 1d. to 25s. 2d. "
Medium \$550 to 600 "	=21s. 2d. to 23s. 0d. "
Hamatszke \$480 to 510 "	=18s. 8d. to 19s. 7d. "

Upon the whole the business of the year must be considered as highly unsatisfactory to silk exporters, for the results of shipments made during the first half year were disastrous in the extreme, and the profits of the new silk will in no way compensate for prior losses. Heavy shipments moreover were made from here at the high prices established in October and current until the end of December. These shipments reach falling markets in Europe with a general depression of the silk trade quite without precedent.

Much has been written on the mode of preparing Japanese silk for the market, but as the subject is an interesting one and is constantly developing new phases, I do not hesitate to devote a few lines to it. Cocoons are availed of for two purposes, that is, either for the reproduction of seed or for reeling into silk. In the case of the former care is taken to preserve the chrysalis, and the cocoons are carefully stored in a place of safety. When it is intended to use the cocoons for silk they are dried in the sun. Two or three exposures will ensure the destruction of the chrysalis, and thus prevent the egress of either *uji* or butterfly. The mode of drying generally in use amongst the Japanese is by exposure to the sun's rays, though drying either by artificial heat or steam is not unknown. If dried in the sun the cocoons should be left till after sunset and until they are slightly moist with dew. If taken in when hot from the effects of the sun, it tends to make the silk brittle and difficulties will be experienced in reeling. With a climate of pretty equable temperature, say 70° Fahr., the worm takes seven or eight days to change into the grub; if the cocoons are picked off the spinning beds too soon, in fact before the change is perfectly effected, it results that when the cocoons are undergoing the drying process the feet of the silk worm are entangled in the cocoon fibre and the silk is consequently damaged. It is a mistake to keep cocoons too long after they are dried: the fresher the cocoons the better the silk; the thread, too, is more easily reeled and the silk will be heavier. About 10 days after the worm has spun its cocoon, the chrysalis has changed into a butterfly or developed an "uji," and makes its egress by eating through the cocoon fibre. If the cocoon is intended for silk great care is taken to preserve it from injury of any kind. When the cocoons are eight or nine days old they are placed on baskets and laid out in the sun to dry. Two day's drying will effectually kill the chrysalis, and the cocoons are then placed where a draught can play freely on them. If it is intended to steam them they are placed in a basket steamer, specially made for this purpose, over a cauldron of hot water. Two or three mulberry leaves are put in the basket with the cocoons and the whole is then covered with a stout wrapping paper. So soon as the mulberry leaves have completely changed color the chrysalis may

be reckoned on as killed. Another plan is to place a large box with a series of drawers or shelves over a fire. At the bottom of each drawer a layer of thick paper is placed and on this the cocoons are laid. Two or three mulberry leaves are then put into each drawer. The drawer should be constantly shifted so that each may receive the same amount of heat; when the leaves pulverize to the touch the killing process is looked upon as effected.

The water in which the cocoons are immersed prior to reeling is the best and purest that can be obtained, and however good of its kind is generally filtered before use. If ordinary well water or water in the least degree tinged with mud is used the thread is apt to lose in weight and natural gloss.

Silk is reeled either by hand or machinery. The latter has been brought to bear recently upon the industry in question, but hand reeling is most in vogue and has been so from time immemorial. Hand-reeling is carried out in the following fashion.

About 8½ lbs. weight of cocoons are taken, and these are divided into thirty parts: one portion is put into boiling water and the thread reeled off first from five or six cocoons increasing to seven or eight. This number will turn out the best silk; for medium and inferior silk 8, 9 to 10 or 12 cocoons are used. A small ring made either of horse hair or human hair is attached to the edge of the basin containing the cocoons and the hot water. The thread is run through this ring and then passed in and out of the first and second fingers of the left hand, the right hand meanwhile turning the handle of the reel. Japanese seem to think that by the hand process greater evenness of thread and an absence of impurities is obtained than by machinery. Cocoons are easily reeled at first, but the process gradually becomes a matter of difficulty and requires a careful and expert hand.

The alleged superiority of hand-reeled silk to that turned out by machinery is combated by the fact that the latter commands a far higher price in the Yokohama market than the former, and the large outlay that has been made on the establishment at Tomioka, where silk is reeled by machinery under foreign supervision, not to mention other establishments in Yedo and elsewhere, tends to confirm the success achieved over hand-reeling.

SILKWORM EGG CARDS.

Exported in 1873 1,409,537 cards valued at \$3,032,360 against 1,280,525 cards valued at \$1,920,787 exported in 1872. I am inclined to think however that the valuation placed by me on the export for 1872 was too low, namely \$1.50 per card, and that \$2.40 would have been a fairer valuation thus giving \$3,073,260 as the value of the export for that year.

The market opened later than in any previous year, the first purchases being made in the beginning of October. Although at first buyers were by no means prepared to pay the high prices asked by Japanese, still as it became known that the export would be restricted (owing to Government legislation in that direction) to about 1,250,000 to 1,300,000 cards, and as the season was very far advanced without any purchases having been effected buyers were obliged to give in and sellers obtained almost the prices asked.

One of the most notable features of the market was the great demand for cards from the district of Shimamura in Joshiu. This seed, it seems, is not so much affected by the changes of temperature and hatches well even in unfavorable seasons when the more delicate kinds from Shinshin and Oshiu have given poor results. The quantity of Shimamura cards available for export was only 30,000, and these were immediately bought up on arrival at \$3.80 to \$4.15 per card. Cards from Yonezawa were also much in request at \$3.30 to \$3.50.

By the end of October settlements had reached to 950,000, the average cost of these being fully as high as that of the preceding years. Prices after the departure of the cargo for Europe at once fell 75 cents, and continued steadily to decline until the close of the season when inferior cards were to be had at 75 cents to \$1.60. Notwithstanding the strong measures taken by the Government to prevent the sale of cards intended for

home use, about 100,000 found their way to Yedo and were bought there at from 50 cents to \$1.

It was evident from this that the quantity set apart for home use was by far in excess of requirements. These low prices brought the average cost of the season's cards down to about \$2.20, whereas the average of the previous year was, I think, higher as above stated.

The rearing of silkworms has always received great attention at the hands of the Japanese, and has now attained to a high degree of perfection. The commencement of the season varies in the different parts of the country, according as the temperature happens to be high or low. Where the climate has a pretty equable temperature the silkworm egg cards are taken out of store about the beginning of April and hung up in some quiet nook of the house. After the lapse of twenty-two or twenty-three days the worms will appear; they are carefully watched and paper is wrapped round the cards which are now placed in a basket tray. They are looked at every morning and brushed off lightly with a feather fan on to another piece of paper. Mulberry leaves are then taken, cut very fine, and well sifted, tossed so as to get rid of leaf fibre, and then mixed with a certain proportion of millet bran. With this the worms are fed. Fresh paper is wrapped round the cards, and this course is pursued for three days when all the worms will be out. The paper with the worms on it is then placed on clean basket trays over a layer of matting. The worms are fed about five times a day. After three days the paper is removed and the worms are transferred to matting. This stage is known as the *hami nuki*. One card will probably multiply itself sixty times so far as the number of worms goes. As a rule about ten days elapse before the first sleep is entered upon, but this depends upon the temperature. When the worms are observed to be preparing for the first sleep they are sprinkled with millet bran and covered with a net, mulberry leaves being placed over the net. After a couple of hours the net is raised, and the worms brought away with the mulberry leaves to which they will have attached themselves. They are then placed in a fresh basket tray, and the one from which they have been taken is well cleaned. When the worms have roused themselves from the first sleep they are sprinkled with rice bran and covered with a net as before, after which they are shifted to a fresh basket. The same course is pursued when the worms go through the second and third sleep, but for the fourth sleep the net is not used. The period that elapses between the second, third, and fourth sleeps is from six to seven days at each stage. Much attention is paid to cleanliness, as neglect in this respect exposes the worm to disease. Mulberry leaves are given with an unsparing hand, the leaves being chopped coarser and coarser as the worms grow in size. Sieves of different sizes are used so as to meet the feeding requirements with fine or coarse leaves. As a rule the worms are fed five times a day, but in hot weather when the leaves are apt to get dry, they are given as often as eight or more times in a day; in cool weather the leaves are given perhaps only three times, but with no reduction in the actual quantity. The leaves are measured out with great nicety. An important feature in the rearing of silk worms is the giving the proper quantity of food, and neither overfeeding nor, on the contrary, starving the worms. After the fourth sleep the leaves are given whole. The worms have now attained full size and soon cease feeding altogether. When they are observed to be seeking for a place to spin in, the best are picked out and placed on the *mabushi*, a contrivance made either of straw or light twigs, and intended to facilitate the spinning of the cocoons. The cocoons are spun in three days. Those selected for silk are dried in the manner before described, either in the sun or by artificial heat, or by steam. If the reproduction of eggs is desired the cocoons are ranged in baskets. After thirteen or fourteen days the chrysalis will have changed into a moth and will emerge from the cocoons. The male and female moths are then mated. About 100, 120, or 130 female moths are then placed on a card which is surrounded with a frame work of oiled or varnished wood so as to prevent the moths from escaping off the card. In a very short space of time, say about twelve hours, the card will be covered with eggs. Strings are then run

through the cards, which are strung up in some quiet corner. In autumn they are stowed away in boxes, and so left until the following spring.

The great thing to guard against is disease, so that careful watching of the worms day and night is most essential. If the weather is exceptionally hot, then the worms are kept cool, if on the other hand, cold, then proper warmth is looked after.

There are several varieties of the mulberry. Exposed and open ground is generally selected for a plantation, with a stream near at hand. The ground is always well drained. With worms intended for reproduction more than ordinary care is exercised in the selection of leaves for their food. The mulberry trees known as *Ichibei* (an early kind) *Yotau me* and *Aico-jiku* (late kinds) are most fancied. Yonezawa in Dowa, Yanagawa in Oshiu, Uyeda in Shinshu, and Shimamura in Jōshu are celebrated for their Silk-worm eggs. The provinces of Oshiu, Dewa, Koshu, Shinshu, and Jōshu have the best reputation for silk. Shimonita and Omama in Jōshu have also a high name, and so too have. Maebashi and Takasaki in Jōshu. According to native returns 193,500 cards were produced in Oshiu in 1872, of which 116,680 are said to have been exported to foreign countries.

Tea.—Exported in 1873 11,339,466 lbs. valued at \$3,339,941, against, exported in 1872, 11,663,333 lbs. valued at \$3,061,625. The following prices were ruling at the commencement of 1873:—

Common.....	\$23 to \$24 per picul.
Good Common.....	\$25 to \$27 "
Medium.....	\$29 to \$32 "
Good Medium.....	\$35 to \$37 "
Fine.....	\$35 to \$37 "
Finest.....	\$38 to \$40 "
Choice.....	\$42 to \$45 "

The highest prices paid for new Teas in May 1873 at the commencement of the tea season were \$50 to \$60 and \$65 to \$75 per picul respectively.

Tea is said to have been first introduced into Japan from China in the year 782, but it did not come into universal use until 1190. A few words on its culture. The districts which have a reputation for the best tea are those of Uji, Daigo, and Togano situated in Yamashiro. Suruga in Omi takes next rank, but the shrub is very generally grown throughout the Empire. The ground best adapted for its cultivation exhibits a reddish soil, mixed with small stones, open to the South and East but shut in from the North and West. Plantations are situated in warm but yet temperate climates. The plant blossoms late in autumn, and the nut or seed follows the flower. These nuts however do not ripen until the winter of the ensuing year. When ripe the nut bursts, and the seed falls to the ground. This is known as the "Ochiko" and is reckoned the best for sowing. It is then placed in bags and stored. The seeds are sown in the course of the last month of the year. Patches of ground measuring six feet square are marked out. These are divided off in three parts in each of which holes of little over a foot in diameter are dug. Manure is used, and after the lapse of two days a small quantity of seed is sown in each hole; about an inch of light soil is then sprinkled over the seed. The seedlings will show up early in summer. In the ensuing year the seedlings are carefully protected from the cold. In the second year liquid manure is applied, but solid manure is not used until the third year. If the plantation is a very good one the leaves are picked immediately after the third year. The time for picking depends upon the temperature of the season, but the most fitting time is when the shrub is in what is known as the three-leaf-stage, and when summer has well set in. This picking makes the best tea. When four or more leaves appear they are somewhat dry in consistency and make inferior tea. Choosing a fine bright day the women and children in the tea growing districts get together each with basket in hand and set to work picking. The best leaves forming first class tea are plucked, and after thirty days comes the second picking for medium teas.

The leaves are taken to the houses and boiling water got ready in a range of cauldrons filled with water to 5-10ths of their capacity. About half a pound of leaves are then placed in each steamer over these cauldrons, a lid is placed on the steamer, and the leaves are thus

steamed for a brief period, then taken off spread on matting and cooled with a fan. They are then removed to the firing pan, tossed and rubbed rapidly to and fro with the hands until the steam has dried off. They are then shifted to a pan placed over a light fire, where having been left for one night they will be found to be completely dried. The leaves are then passed through a sieve to get rid of the stalks and a rough cleaning process is gone through to remove conspicuous impurities, after which which they are again carefully sifted. The sieves are made of different sizes, each of a successive grade adapted to every stage of sorting from rough to fine. They are classified into 1st, 2nd and 3rd class, and an expert is employed who parcels out the leaves into good, medium and inferior. When this has been done the tea is again fired, cooled, and placed either in cedar wood boxes or packed up in matting, and is now ready for transmission to different parts of the country, or it is placed in jars with the lids carefully secured so as to exclude all air. For storage a well ventilated place is selected, damp being very injurious to tea. When sudden changes take place in the temperature, as is not unfrequently the case at all seasons of the year, the leaves are taken out and refired so as to ensure their retaining full colour and flavour.

"Powder tea" is esteemed a great luxury by Japanese, and although coming from the same seed as ordinary tea is cultivated in a different manner thus developing a leaf different in consistency and flavour. This tea of two kinds known as "Koicha," and "Usucha" is made from very old shrubs selected from the best grounds or plantations. These shrubs are very freely manured, some ten times in the year for "Koicha" and some six times for "Usucha." About the end of March or beginning of April, these shrubs are surrounded on all sides, in addition to being covered with a bamboo screen work so as to protect from frost. This screen work is removed when summer is well set in. When the leaves have been picked, they are steamed for about half a minute, spread out on matting and cooled. Then follows the same process as with ordinary tea, namely, firing first over a quick and then over a slow fire, the only difference being that the leaves are turned about with a stick and not with the hand. When about half dried the leaves are placed on trays and dried gradually before a light fire after which they are passed through bamboo sieves; finally they are spread out on sheets of paper, each leaf being picked out singly. Great care is shown in the mode of storage of this particular kind of tea. The leaves are placed in tin or white metal jars, which again are enclosed in wooden boxes and packed with a certain quantity of common leaf. This preserves the scent and flavor for a long time. When about to use for drinking a sufficient quantity is taken out of the metal jar placed in a small hand tea-mill and slowly ground into a very fine powder. The powder is then removed with a feather and placed in an air-tight jar. Boiling water is then got ready and when just at boiling point about one quarter of an ounce of tea powder is put into a tea cup and boiling water poured on to suit taste. The whole is then rapidly stirred with a bamboo stick especially made for the purpose until a good froth is produced. The tea should then be drunk. Much ceremony is observed in the drinking of this particular tea.

* **Tobacco.**—8071.57 piculs valued at \$60,840 exported in 1873 against 2,821 piculs valued at \$22,568 exported in 1872.

According to a native authority tobacco was introduced into Japan in the year 1605, and was first planted at Nagasaki in Hizen. It is now very generally grown throughout the country. Japanese give the following description of its mode of culture.

In those provinces where a high degree of temperature prevails the plant lives throughout the winter, but it is nevertheless customary to sow fresh seed in the early spring of each successive year. The plants appear in due time and by the third month of the year have attained a height of five or six inches. In the sixth month they will have grown to some six feet with a full round stem. The leaves are long and pointed, about one foot in length and completely envelop the stalk. Both stem and leaf are covered with a fine hairy substance. In Autumn a great number of flowers spring from the tip of the stem. These are about

an inch in length and of a pale purple tint. To these succeed small round seeds inside of which are three small chambers containing a great number of light red seeds. The leaves differ in form in different provinces, some being round and wide, others narrow and pointed, and others thick and long. The first kind are produced in Osumi, Satsuma, Iyo, and Awa; the second in Kodzki and Satsū. The mode of cultivation also varies in the different provinces. In Osumi, Satsuma, Iiuga, Iyo and Kadzusa, the seed is sown late in autumn and transplanted in the spring of the ensuing year, while in other places the seed is sown in early spring and transplanted a little later on. The sowing and transplanting are however dependant on the temperature of the locality, and each place follows its own customs.

In Awa, where a great deal of tobacco is grown the seed is sown in early spring in fields well exposed to the sun and duly prepared for its reception. Well sifted stable manure is strewn over the field and the seedlings appear after the lapse of about twenty days. The old manure is then swept away and liquid manure applied from time to time. If the plants are too dense they are thinned out. The larger plants are now planted out into fields well prepared for the purpose in rows with about eight inches space between each plant, the furrows between each row being about two feet wide. They are again well sprinkled with liquid manure, also with the lees of oil at intervals of about seven days. A covering of wheat or millet bran is now laid over the furrows.

The bitter taste of the leaf is in a measure an effectual safeguard against the ravages of insects, but the leaves are nevertheless carefully tended to prevent damage from such cause. If the reproduction from seed is not desired the flowers should be cut off and the stem pruned down, otherwise the leaves will lose in smell and flavour. In Osumi exceptional attention is paid to the cultivation of the tobacco plant. The lees of oil if liberally used, and stable manure sparsely applied have great effect on the plant producing a small leaf with an excellent flavour, while if the opposite course is followed the leaves grow to an immense size but are very inferior in taste. The manuring of tobacco differs from that of other plants in that manure is plentifully applied both to the roots and leaves.

Gathering the leaves. In the height of summer when the flowers are of a light tint, two or three of the leaves nearest the root are gathered. These are called first leaves but produce Tobacco of second quality. After the lapse of a fortnight the leaves are gathered by twos, and from these the best tobacco is produced. Any remaining leaves are afterwards broken off along with the stem and dried. These form the lowest quality of tobacco. After gathering, the leaves are arranged in regular layers and covered with straw matting which is removed in a couple of days. The leaves are now of a light yellow colour. They are then fastened by the stem in twos and threes to a rope slung in a smoke room, and after being so left for 14 or 15 days, they are dried for two or three days in the sun, after which they are exposed for a couple of nights in order that they may be moistened with dew. They are then smoothed out and arranged in layers, the stems being fastened together, pressed down with boards and packed away in a dark room.

Chopping the leaves. Any sand adhering to the leaves is removed with a brush. The stems having been cut off, the leaves are rolled round, firmly pressed down with a thin board, and cut exactly in the centre. The two halves are then placed one on top of each other in such manner that the edges exactly correspond, and being in this position firmly compressed between two boards they are cut into fine strips, the degree of fineness depending on the skill of the cutter. A machine made of hard wood but with the vital parts of iron is used by some persons for this purpose. This machine was devised about sixty years ago by a skilful Yedo mechanic, the idea being taken from those used in Osaka and Kiyoto for cutting thread used for weaving into silk embroidery. Since then numerous improvements have been made in it, and it is now extremely well adapted for the economization of labour. Another machine was invented about eight years since also by a Yedo mechanic. It is smaller than the first mentioned, but being very easily worked is

much in use. Tobacco is sometimes cut in the following crude manner. The leaves are piled one on top of the other, tightly compressed into the consistency of a board and then cut into shavings with a carpenter's plane. This is, however, about the worst method, and even the best tobacco if treated in such fashion loses its flavor and valuable qualities.

I append the following table shewing the provinces where the best, medium, and inferior tobaccos are grown. Dividing them into classes they stand as follows:—

First-class Leaf.

Osumi, Kodzuke, Satsuma, Setsu, Musashi, Tamba, Kadzusa.

Second-class.

Sagami, Shinano, Nagato, Hizen, Hibachi, Shimodzuke,

Third-class.

Awa, Tajima, Bishu, Ōmi, Tango, Iwaki, Iwashiro.

Wax, Vegetable and Bee's.

The export of this from Kanagawa has never attained to any very high figure. The returns for 1873 shew only:—

Vegetable Wax, 150 piculs valued at \$1,820. Bees Wax, 8 piculs and 23 cattles valued at \$101.

In 1872 the export of Vegetable Wax was 418 piculs valued at \$6,270, but at Kobe and Nagasaki it figures with some prominence amongst the export returns.

The trees from which wax is made are the *urushi* or lacquer tree, the *yama-urushi*, the *hage-urushi* (the last mentioned better known as the *ro-no-ki*) and the *ko-ga-no-ki*. The wax is made from the rind of the fruit. In places where wax is manufactured to any great extent, the *urushi* is not availed of for its lacquer. As the trees are not cut for several years they may be seen in the wax producing districts growing to a height of 35 or 40 feet. In districts where the trees are used for their lacquer or varnish they are cut every seven or ten years. The mode of obtaining wax from the *urushi* or lacquer tree is as follows.

Late in the autumn the branches, heavy with fruit, are lopped off and taken into the house. The fruit is pounded up in a pestle, and then shaken in a basket-sieve so as to separate seed from rind. From this rind the wax is made. The mode of expressing it differs here and there but in no very important particulars. The following brief description is taken from the mode as followed out in Sendai and Aizu. Boiling water is got ready in an iron cauldron over which a lattice works of sticks is placed, and on these some matting. The sifted rinds of the fruit are then laid out on the matting and steamed, after which they are placed in hempen bags and again steamed. The bag with its contents is then put in a wooden trough, wedges or blocks are inserted in the trough and driven home on to the bag with heavy blows from a mallet. An aperture at the bottom of the trough provides for the egress of the wax. The trough and wedges are made of *kiaki* wood, and the mallets and blocks of wild mulberry, a very hard wood and well suited to the purpose. A small quantity of oil, in the proportion of about 1/10th is added to the wax, to allow of its being expressed more easily. It then goes through another steaming process and is again pounded in the trough.

Wax from the *yama urushi* or wild lacquer tree is obtained thus. The fruit is collected at the latter end of summer and is at once steamed without being pounded in a pestle as is the case with the *urushi* wax. The wax is purified by melting. A large tub of cold water is taken and placed under a wooden tank having a small aperture close to the bottom. The melted wax is then poured into this tank and escapes through the aperture into the tub beneath, while doing so it is stirred rapidly with the hand, after which it is placed either in matting or shallow boxes and dried in the open air for about 15 days.

The *hage-urushi*, from which wax is largely obtained, grows in the south-western of the Empire. This tree was first brought from the Loochoo Islands to Sakura-jima, an island near Satsuma. Its production has so increased that there are now no less than seven different species, *Marumi*, *Yasutomi*, *Inotsume*, *Ogawa*, *Tanaka*, *Fukisange*, *Matsuyama*, the last mentioned being regarded as the best. The *hage-urushi* tree is raised from seed or from slips. *Koga* wax is made from the fruit of the

koga tree which differs from the *urushi* and *hage-urushi* trees. It is an ever-green and is largely grown in Otsugōn in the northern part of Nagato. It flowers in the middle of summer, the fruit ripening in autumn when it is plucked and soaked in water for four or five days, after which it is trodden out with the feet, thus separating the outer rind. The *koga* wax contains a large proportion of natural oil which in a measure restricts its use to cold and temperate districts. Candles made of it show a very bright light, and if some contrivance could be hit upon for extracting the oil, the consumption of this wax would be increased, as it is very cheap compared with the other kinds. Refuse wax is used for manuring purposes.

Bee's wax is obtained in this way. After the honey has been taken from the comb the latter is put into boiling water, and allowing to simmer. It soon dissolves and floats to the surface. A wire net work with raised sides is then inserted in the boiler and pressed down, thus causing the wax to rise through and above the net, the refuse part of the comb remaining at the bottom. The wax is taken out and placed in cold water where it soon hardens. It is then lumped together and again melted, after which it is placed in moulds and is now ready for the market. The amount of wax obtainable from a comb is equal to about one third of the weight. Wax is also made from the combs of insects which build on the Ibōte tree. This wax is of the purest white, and is prepared in the same way as bee's wax.

Hemp.

Japan is known to produce hemp of the finest quality, but it has as yet found no market out of the country. It can only be laid down in England at so high a price as to effectually shut it out from competition with Manila hemp, the latter well answering all the purposes to which coarser hemp is applied—namely, cordage and sail cloth. Hempen cloths are freely used by the Japanese, and it is not improbable that before long machinery may be brought to bear upon this industry. I proceed to give a brief account of its culture and preparation in this country.

Hemp grows wild throughout Japan, but care is more especially given to its preparation in the Northern Districts, where it is made up into piece goods known as *Echigo Chijimi*, *Echigo Jifu*, *Yonegawa Chijimi*, etc. The plant is perennial and attains to a growth of six feet and upwards; the stem is covered with a short hairy substance; the leaves are heart shaped with a sharp point; the surface of the leaf bluish in color and the back white; both sides are furry and rough to the touch. In the summer small sprouts of about two or three inches in length appear at the point where the leaves join the stem. These throw out blossoms which develop into small white flowers, the female flowers being next the leaf, the male next the stalk. There are three descriptions of the plant, one called *Akagin*, a second '*Shiragin*,' and a third '*Shirappa*.' The last named has a much whiter leaf than the two former. There is no very material difference in the quality of the three plants, but such as may exist depends on the amount of care bestowed on the cultivation. The plant being a perennial there is no occasion to sow seed, propagation being carried on by means of shoots taken from the roots. The proper time for doing this is in autumn when the shoots are planted out at a distance of three feet apart. Notwithstanding this space between the plants the ground is completely covered in a very short time. The new plants are not fit for use until after a three year's growth. They are generally protected with a fencing, and the ground is kept free from weeds and creepers. The best plant grows very straight with the leaves at regular intervals. The inferior kinds grow crooked and bear a great number of leaves. The fibre is obtained in the following manner.

When the summer has set in the plantation is fired, after which the ground is well prepared with manure and so left till the close of summer, when the shoots will have attained their full height. They are then cut and soaked in running water for about four hours. After immersion the stalks are broken in about three places thus separating the rind from the pith. In the interstice thus made the thumb of the left hand is inserted and the stalks shredded. The shredded parts are then placed in layers. They are now laid out on a board set up with a foot piece

at one end so as to make an inclined plane. A small edged tool is then grasped in the right hand, the shreds being firmly held down with the left and the inner white coating is then scraped off. The shreds are now hung on a frame, after which they are again placed on the board and this time the outer green pith is scraped off. The fibre is now tied together in bundles and dried. This scraping or stripping of the outer green peel requires much deftness and is only done by an experienced hand. Only one day is occupied in doing the above, so that a man cuts just as much and no more than he can get through in the day's work. When the fibre has been tied together in bundles it is hung up to dry and carefully guarded from wet. This dried fibre is woven into cloth and all kinds of piece goods. The coarser kinds are also made into an inferior description of cloth very brown in color and known as '*Akari momen*.' The outer green bark or peel is also dried, macerated and made into paper pulp, used for the coarsest kinds of papers. It is sometimes used in its dried state by the poorer classes as a stuffing for mattresses. The best of the outer or surface fibre is also made up into material very strong in texture and of a mouse color known as '*Shara hagi momen*.' The pith, or what is left after obtaining the fibre, is utilized in finishing off the thatch of houses.

A man well up in the cultivation of hemp will raise 130 lbs. of hemp from a piece of ground measuring 30 *tsubo* (a *tsubo* being six feet square) but the average production is about eighty-five pounds for the same measurement of ground.

Rice.

The prohibition on the export of rice has ceased to exist, its free export having been declared by Government order dated July 15th 1873. The Custom House Returns for the year give the export of rice as almost *nil*,—one hundred and seventy one piculs, but probably no notice has been taken of the export on Government account, and further, although the prohibition against the export has been withdrawn there has been no inducement to ship. The Chamber of Commerce Returns place the export of 1873 at 215,984 piculs valued at \$347,832 and this export was confined entirely to the first six months of the year and consisted probably of coast shipments. The Returns for Hiogo and Osaka shew an export of 154,432 piculs valued at \$520,678.74 shipped during the year 1873.

Rice is largely grown within this Consulate district. The plant is known under the name of '*Inc*,' the grain before the husk is removed is designed as '*momi*' (paddy), without the husk it is known as '*kome*' or rice. The hill or upland rice which is sown on dry soil is called *Okabo*, ordinary rice is as is generally known grown on irrigated lands. The early kinds are small in grain and not sweet, but they meet a want when as in the height of summer there may be an absence of grain of any kind. The ordinary or late crops are big in grain and sweet in flavor. In Japan, as I suppose is the case in all rice-growing countries, attention is paid to what particular kind of grain thrives in a fat and what in a thin soil, also what kinds of rice are adapted to a cold and what to a warm climate. The Japanese have several kinds of rice to which distinctive names are given, these being either universal throughout the country or confined to particular districts. I give a few of the most prominent kinds:—

Cha-nrigashi.—Small grain, thin leaf, and stalk, and brown colour.

Sando-bake.—Exhibits a reddish husk but a white grain.

Ama-kusa-mochi.—Reddish husk with dark grain. This kind is largely used in making rice cakes or loaves.

Shito-fushi wase.—Has a very dark husk and is much bearded. It throws out grain when it has attained a very short growth. In some places two crops of this kind are gathered in one year.

Yawarata Inc.—A long grain without beard. *Komi-no*—large and long grain, short beard, and great length of stalk.

Murasaki Nae.—Husk, stalk and beard have a somewhat purplish tint; the grain is however quite white.

Watakehi Gome.—Of which there are two descriptions

—red and white. This kind is very dry in grain and lacks sweetness; it is, however, very digestible. The rice from this grain is not obtained by the ordinary process with a frail but by a process of boiling.

Nido Ine. This is sown early in spring and reaped in summer; the second crop is then sown immediately and reaped early in winter. This species of rice is known in Tosa as Tosa Roku. In Hinga there is no second sowing but a second crop is obtained of the first seedlings.

Prior to sowing, the seed (rice grain) is always soaked in water. The length of immersion depending on whether the sowing is for early ordinary or late crops. The sowings are, however, generally made between the middle of February and the end of April. The rice is taken just as it is packed in bags and immersed in water, a stream, well, or pond all answering the purpose equally well. It is there left to soak for ten, fifteen or twenty days and then taken out and warm water poured over the bags which are now covered with an additional covering of matting so as to induce warmth and force the sprouting of the grain. Another plan is to open the bags after they have been soaked and to dry the grain for two or three days taking care to turn it about frequently. It is brought indoors about dusk and covered with matting. The rice is sown when the grain is on the point of sprouting. Exposure to the sun's rays after immersion will also force on the sprouting. In some parts of the country the rice is sown almost immediately after it has been taken out of the water and when the husks of the grain have just burst and no more. The ground for the reception of the seedling is chosen with an eye to richness of soil and good facilities for irrigation. Towards the end of autumn it is well ploughed and stable manure is mixed with the up-turned soil. When spring comes round the soil is gone over with a spade, and all lumpy soil broken at each stroke of the spade or hoe; trefoil, young bamboo leaves or indeed green leaves of any kinds, fish manure or refuse oil, is mixed with the soil which is manured besides and then well flooded. The water channels are well banked up all round, and care is taken to keep the ground free from weeds, further the surface of the soil is smoothed down so as to prevent no irregularities. When the water has cleared and all muddy particles sunk to the bottom the seed is sown broadcast. This work is only entrusted to experienced hands otherwise the seed would appear in patches. After the sowing the water is drawn off; a fine day is chosen for this so that the warm rays of the sun may penetrate the soil. The soil is left dry from morning to evening when it is again flooded and so left till morning. The water is not allowed to be more than two or three inches deep. If the weather looks like rain the water is drawn off otherwise the rain would wash away the seedlings altogether. When the seedlings are well up fish manure or refuse oil is scattered over them to force them on and induce a thick growth. Transplanting takes place in from 45 to 55 days after sowing. In this work the wives and daughters of the farmers are largely employed. The seedlings are planted out in tufts two three four or five plants going to the tuft according to the practice prevailing in different localities. The tufts are planted out in lines with a space of from one to two feet between each tuft, much dexterity is displayed in this and a knowledge of the capabilities of the soil is essential so as to know whether to plant the rice out close or far apart. So soon as the planting out is over the proprietor goes round his lands to see with a practised eye whether any irregularities exist: whatever he notices amiss he rectifies at once. From fifteen to twenty thousand tufts are required for three hundred *tsubo*es of ground (a *tsubo* measuring six feet square.) In sowing, a little over a pint and a half of grain will suffice for thirty *tsubo*es of ground. After planting out the ground is gone over with a light hand rake and hoe, and care is taken that the soil does not press too heavily at the roots of the seedlings. All foot marks are carefully erased, and the ground constantly weeded. When the plants are well forward full in grain the water is taken off the fields so that the sun may penetrate the soil and thus harden the grain. When the earth has become thoroughly hard at the roots of the plants it is accepted as a sign that the grain has attained a proper consistency of hardness.

Of the *okabo* (hill or upland rice) there are both early

and late kinds but they do not differ much in leaf or grain from the ordinary paddy. The ground for this description of rice is first well manured either with stable or liquid manure and then laid out in furrows. About three and a half pints of seed are required for thirty *tsubo*es of ground. The seed is sown much in the same manner as millet or wheat. Prior to sowing it is immersed in water for a few days, exposed to the sun, and then sown when the husks are about to burst open.

Rice crops suffer much from the depredations of birds and vermin, and all sorts of appliances are resorted to, to scare these away. Either straw ropes with clappers attached are stretched across the fields or scarecrows are placed here and there. A favorite contrivance particularly noticeable in hilly districts is this—a hollowed bamboo of a foot or so in length in which a small stick is inserted; this is supported on a couple of props right and left which just keep it at a balance. It is then placed in such a position as to allow any of the small natural rivulets of water that abound to play into it, thus causing it to clatter up and down: it effectively scares away birds and the like.

Harvesting. When harvest time comes round, the crops are cut with a sickle, the rice is bound in sheaves and left to dry in the sun for about five days, or it is suspended ears down from a bamboo frame. It is then taken into the barns and passed through a toothed instrument which roughly separates the ears from the stalks. It is then run through a sieve and again dried in the sun. Afterwards it is winnowed by which process the good and inferior grains are separated, the one falling to the right the other to the left of the winnowing machine: another aperture provides for the egress of dust, refuse stalk, &c. The grain is then tossed over matting and left exposed for a short time. It is then placed in a pestle and the husk separated from the grain, after which it is again winnowed and passed through a funnel placed on an inclined plane. The best and heaviest grain finding its way down the incline, the light kind being caught in a wire-work net. The rice is now measured out and made up into bags holding from twelve to twenty-two gallons of grain. The size of a rice bag is held to be a test of the physique of the men of any particular district where rice is grown. The bigger the bag, the stronger and better built the men. The province of Owari is noted for the size of its rice bags; the smallest are those of Iizen and Dewa. I append a table of the provinces where the best kinds of rice are grown and also a table shewing the relative produce of a good and also a bad harvest. Rice of the first quality is grown in the province of Mino, Higo, Ise, Owari, Totomi, Iizen, Hiuiga, Yamashiro, Yamato, Suruga, Idzu, Ōmi and Mikawa. Second quality is grown in Harima, Tama, Tango and Tajima. Third quality in Kadzusa, Shimosa, Musashi, Kaga, Echigo and Shinano.

RELATIVE PRODUCE WITH A GOOD HARVEST.

$\frac{1}{4}$ -acre of best ground produces 816 lbs. of rice, of medium ground 583 lbs., and of inferior ground 467 lbs.

WITH A BAD HARVEST.

$\frac{1}{4}$ -acre of best ground produces 467 lbs., of medium ground 350 lbs., and of inferior ground 289 lbs.

The above table is based on the average products of a well known rice district in Iizen.

Shipping.

Direct trade in British vessels from and to Great Britain and Colonies. In 1873 eighty-seven vessels with a tonnage of 75,176 tons, all with cargoes, entered the port against eighty-eight vessels with a tonnage of 59,811 tons entering in 1872. The increase in entries with cargo tonnage for the past year is 16,879 tons over 1872, but with numerically one ship less. The clearances in 1873 amounted to 36 vessels with a tonnage of 31,419 tons against 57 vessels with a tonnage of 39,893 tons clearing in 1872. All the clearances in 1872, fifty-five ships with a tonnage of 38,475 tons, were with cargoes, the remainder clearing in ballast. There is no decrease therefore for the past year total under the clearances of 21 vessels with a tonnage of 8,474 tons, and of these with cargoes of 19 vessels with tonnage of 7,056 tons as compared with 1872.

Indirect or carrying trade in British ships from and to other countries.

The total entries for 1873 gave 20 vessels with a ton

nage of 11,002 tons; the total clearances 34 vessels with a tonnage of 25,707 tons.

The entries with cargoes were 18 vessels with a cargo tonnage of 10,069 tons. The clearances 25 vessels with a cargo tonnage of 20,999 tons. Comparing these figures with 1872, the total entries under the above heading for 1872 were 27 vessels with a tonnage of 11,802 tons; the clearances 32 vessels with a tonnage of 17,564 tons, of the entries in 1872, 25 vessels with a tonnage of 10,621 tons were with cargoes, and the clearances 23 vessels with a cargo tonnage of 12,945 tons. The total entries for 1873 shew a decrease of 7 in the number of vessels, as compared with 1872, the tonnage, however, remains much the same. The clearances shew an increase of 2 vessels and in tonnage an increase of 8,143 tons. The entries with cargoes shew a decrease of 7 in the number of vessels with but little difference in the total cargo tonnage. The clearances shew a numerical increase of 2 vessels and a cargo increase of 8,054 tons. Indirect or carrying trade in British vessels from or to open ports in Japan. In the total entries there is an increase of 13 vessels with an increase in the tonnage of 6,169 tons. In the clearance there is an increase of 26 vessels and an increase in the tonnage of 21,825 tons as compared with 1872. Of the entries all were with cargoes, against 16 vessels with a tonnage of 8,355 tons entered with cargoes in 1872. Of the clearances 32 vessels with a tonnage of 24,003 tons were with cargoes against 29 vessels with a tonnage of 16,409 tons cleared in 1872. There is an increase therefore over 1872 of entries with cargoes of 14 vessels with a cargo tonnage of 6,419 tons, and of the clearances an increase of 4 ships with a cargo tonnage of 7,549 tons.

Yokohama still labours under all the disadvantages attendant on a comparatively open roadstead, and with few or no facilities for landing or shipping cargo, though the improvements recently made by the Japanese Government at the principal landing place should not be allowed to pass unnoticed.

I have heard that it is proposed to run out two stone jetties in such shape as will form a sheltered anchorage and at the same time admit of ships discharging and loading along side, but the project, if indeed such exists, has not yet been made public, and I simply quote from hearsay.

I have given some attention to the subject of the purchasing power of money in this district, the wages of the artizan and agricultural classes and the social economy generally of those classes of the people with whom we are almost daily in contact, but this led me into a field of research which I can scarcely bring within the scope of this report. Moreover inquiries under these headings are met with replies so inconsistent and difficult of explanation. To instance this I may mention that I have been credibly informed that the cost of the daily necessities of life in Yokohama is so high that Japanese find it cheaper to incur the expense of a journey by rail to Kanagawa and back buying their supplies in that town, than to purchase them in Yokohama. At first sight this would seem to be absurd and would probably be reckoned as a mis-statement, for under ordinary circumstances the difference of price of necessities at Kanagawa and Yokohama would consist only in the additional cost of conveyance from the former to the latter place, but this enhanced cost lies more, I fear, in the fact that nearly everything brought to Yokohama is so taxed both openly and secretly as to make prices almost ruinous to native consumers. I hesitate in saying this is so emphatically, but from such information as I have been able to obtain it points in this direction. As is well known, a market exists in Yokohama for the supply of daily necessities both for foreign and Japanese tables, and every small retail vendor is compelled to purchase in this market. Fish, fowl, game, and all garden produce are forced into this market by order of the authorities and a per centum tax levied. The seller has therefore not only to make his profit but to recoup himself in the amount of his tax and the rental of his stall. Except that the market brings to a focus produce of this kind and is thus a convenience it would seem to be in other respects the reverse of a benefit. Apart from the tax, which may be fair enough, I have no doubt but that a system of

petty extortion exists which increases tenfold the price of all articles. If there was such an officer as "Inspector of markets" the desirability of which I pointed out some time since to the proper Japanese authorities, there would be less ground of complaint on this score, for the purchaser would have some guarantee of the quality of the food bought. Anyone who has seen a Japanese butcher's shop will agree with me that there is good work for an Inspector in that direction.

Looking to the position of the artizan and labourer in this district both may be considered as well to do. Little or no distress exists amongst the agricultural classes. Their wants are few and they are content to live on without seeking materially to improve their circumstances. Great changes have taken place of late years in the character and condition of the artizan class, and the growing taste on part of Japanese for brick or stone faced houses has brought forward a class of men who make a speciality of this work, namely, stone masons and bricklayers. It is not many years since the former held a very inferior position in the trades, but they have now pushed themselves to the front rank and a first class hand will earn his five *bus* a day—say five to six shillings a piece work. The following may be taken as the average of wages ruling in this district for artizans.

Carpenters	1½	to	2	Bus per diem.
Plasterers	1½	to	2	" " "
Stonemasons	2½	to	3	" " "
Blacksmiths	1	to	8	" " "
Bricklayers	1	to	0	" " "
Tilers	1½	to	3	" " "
Paper hangers	1½	to	3	" " "
House Painters & Decorators	1½	to	3	" " "
Joiners	3	to	0	" " "

Good hands employed in piece work will however earn far in excess of the above. The lowest figure on which the above can livewith any thing approaching to comfort is about 11 *bus* per mensem for food. House rent may be put down at 6 *bus* a month. For the 11 *bus* a man will get three good meals a day. His breakfast of rice, bean soup and radish; his dinner of cold rice, salt fish or sweet potatoes, and his supper of rice and some little adjunct. The employer will generally find the workmen in tea (of a common kind) at their dinner, and if the work progresses well an occasional allowance of *saké* or wine. Cost of clothing may be put down at 16 or 20 *bus* per annum. Boarding houses are common institutes for unmarried men, the charge being about 8 *tempos* a day which would compute to 9 or 10 shillings a month. A comparison of earning and disbursements will shew that there is yet a good margin for petty luxuries, amusements, etc. I should doubt if the Japanese artizan unless married was a saving man. A married couple of this class can not live well under 28 or 30 *bus* a month. I give Yokohama rates which are extremely high. In the interior living is probably much cheaper. There is no doubt that the rate of living in and about Yokohama for all classes of Japanese has increased to an unprecedented extent of late years. Ten years ago a Japanese officer of standing attached to any of the local Governments offices here could live comfortably as a married man on twenty-two dollars a month. This would admit of his keeping a good table, dressing well, keep of servants and a horse. The same mode of living cannot be indulged in now under seventy-five or eighty dollars a month. In 1860 a Japanese servant would cost his master, keep and wages included about eighteen dollars per annum. The estimated cost now is twenty-five dollars. I give a few instances of the rise in prices of some articles in daily use amongst the Japanese.

In 1860 *issshô* (a certain measure) of *saké* or wine cost eight *tempos*. The same quantity cannot now be bought, under twenty *tempos*. One *riô* (of money) would then purchase 2 to 5 *shô* (measure) of rice: the same amount will now only purchase half the quantity. Oil was five or six *tempos* per *issshô* (measurement) and now the like quantity costs thirty-two *tempos*. A certain weight of Charcoal could be bought for three *tempos*. The same weight now costs eighteen. If certain commodities have become dear the Japanese must set off as against these the greater cheapness of transit and locomotion as compared with former years. Japanese steamers are now

conveying passengers to Kobe and Osaka—a distance of some 360 miles for eight dollars a head and finding them in food on the passage, a great saving both in economy of time and expenditure as compared with the journey by road. I regret that I have been unable to obtain reliable statistics of the trade done by native steamers. No records under this heading are kept at the Custom House, and my enquiries at the agencies of the different steamship companies for information in this direction have not met with success.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient,
humble servant.

(Signed) RUSSELL ROBERTSON.

SIR HARRY PARKES, K.C.B.

YOKOHAMA SPRING MEETING.

Favoured by the weather the first day of the half-yearly Spring Meeting was all that could be desired. There was a fair (though, possibly, not very large) attendance of visitors and the Grand Stand was moderately well filled. No Band was present, that of the *Hartford*, it is stated, being engaged for the three race days; but it is hoped that the arrival in harbour yesterday of the *Iron Duke* will enable the Committee to obtain the favour of the attendance of the Band of that vessel for this and the ensuing day.

First Day, Thursday, May 14th 1874.

1.—THE NEW COMER'S CUP.

Presented,—value \$100, for China Ponies that have never won a Race in Hongkong, China or Japan. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Once Round.

Mr. James' *Thistle*..... 1

Mr. Jon's *Kingcraft* 2

An easily-won race. *Thistle* took the lead from the start and won by several lengths. Time 2 min. 45½ sec.

2.—THE GRIFFINS PLATE.

Value \$100. For Japan Ponies that have never run at any Meeting. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Half-a-mile.

Mr. Morrison's *Despair*..... 1

Mr. Ola's *Hajimete*..... 2

Mr. Von Zittau's *Noir* 3

Punch made two false starts and got round the course. Finally a fair start was made and *Despair* took and kept the lead, winning, apparently, without any distress. Time 1 min. 2 sec.

3.—THE CELESTIAL CUP.

Value \$100, presented by the Chinese Compradores, for China Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.

Mr. James' *Heather Bell* 1

Mr. Polcen's *Gamecock*..... 2

Mr. E. Ola's *Carrots* 3

This race, also, was signalled by three false starts. *Gamecock* led followed by *Carrots*, who, about half way round, yielded to *Heather Bell* who came in a winner by several lengths. Time 1 min. 41 sec.

4.—THE NIPPON CHAMPION.

Value \$150, for Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance \$10. One Mile

Mr. Marlborough's *Typhoon*..... 1

Mr. E. Ola's *Ma-htotz* 2

Mr. Polcen's *Friar Tuck* 3

Some false starts occurred also here in which *Friar Tuck* "bolted." Finally *Ma-htotz* led but was, after some little distance, passed by *Typhoon* who secured the race with comparative ease.

5.—THE CHALLENGE CUP.

Value \$150, for China Ponies. Weight for inches. Two Ponies from opposing Stables to start or no Race. Entrance \$10. Two Miles.

Mr. St. George's *Dixie* 1

Mr. E. Ola's *Lingerer* 2

6.—THE CONSULAR PLATE.

Value \$, presented by the Consular Board, for Japan Ponies. Winners at this Meeting of One Race, 4 lbs.; of Two Races, 7 lbs. extra. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.

Mr. Marlborough's *Typhoon* 1

Mr. Ola's *Lodi* 2

Mr. Ola's *Masrao* 3

Lodi took and preserved the lead for a considerable distance, when he was passed by the winner.

7.—THE CLUB CUP.

Value \$100, for China Ponies. Winner of No. 5 excluded. Winners at this Meeting of One Race, 4 lbs.; of Two Races, 7 lbs. extra. Winners of Two Races at last Autumn Meeting, or the Kobe Spring Meeting, 1874, 7 lbs. extra. Penalties not accumulative. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. One-mile-and-a-quarter.

Mr. James' *Dibs*..... 1

Mr. Radley's *Ivanhoe*..... 2

Mr. Morrison's *Crusader* 3

Woodcock took the lead but was subsequently passed by *Ivanhoe* who, in his turn, yielded to *Dibs*. The latter won by several lengths. The race was run in 2 min. 55 sec.

8.—THE KIOTO CUP.

Value \$75, for all Ponies not entered in any Races except No. 9, 1st, & 2nd Day. and Nos. 1, 3, and 4, 3rd Day, but open to Ponies entered in the New Comer's Cup and Griffin's Plate. Weight: China Ponies, 11st.; Japan Ponies, 10st. 4 lbs. Entrance \$5. One Mile.

Mr. James' *Thistle*..... 1

Mr. Williams' *Brother to Chanticleer*... 2

Won by *Thistle* by a couple of lengths.

9.—THE WELTER STAKES.

For all Ponies. Owners up. Entrance \$5, with \$50 added from the Fund, non-starters to pay a Fine of \$5, and Fines to go to Second Pony. Weight, 12st. Half-a-mile.

Mr. J. Robertson's *Tim Whiffer*..... 1

Mr. E. Ola's *Carrots* 2

Tim Whiffer took the lead after passing *Snowball*. Though pressed closely by *Carrots* he succeeded in preserving a leading position and came in a winner. Run in 1 min. 7 sec.

Second Day, Friday, May 15th 1874.

The continued fine weather and the special attractions of the events to be contested drew together a larger number of visitors yesterday. The band of the *Iron Duke* was present and performed during the intervals of the races which passed off most successfully.

The first race was the

1.—THE VISITORS' CUP.

Presented,—value \$125, for China Ponies. Winner of the Challenge Cup, 7 lbs.; of the Club Cup, 4 lbs. extra. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. One-mile-and-a-half.

Mr. St. George's *Dixie* 1

Mr. Morrison's *Crusader* 2

Mr. E. Ola's *Lingerer* 3

For this race, which was well contested, three horses started. For some distance *Lingerer* made the best of the running but after about a mile yielded the position to *Crusader* and *Dixie* between whom the remainder of the race lay. *Dixie* won by a length and a half. Time 3.26 minutes.

2.—THE AMERICAN CUP.

Presented,—value \$130, for Japan Ponies. Three Ponies from opposing Stables to start or no Race. Winners on the previous day of One Race, 7 lbs.; Two Races, 10 lbs. extra. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.

Mr. J. Robertson's *Tim Whiffer*..... 1

Mr. E. Ola's *Masrao*..... 2

Mr. Von Zittau's *Noir*..... 3

Masrao has the best of the start, but after a little time, was overtaken by *Tim Whiffer* who, after a keenly com-

peted race, came in a winner by more than a length. Time 1.47 minutes.

3.—THE LEDGER PLATE.

Presented,—value \$150, for China Ponies. Winners at this Meeting of Races under a Mile, 7 lbs. extra. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Half-a-mile.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Polcen's <i>Gamecock</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Radley's <i>Genserio</i> | 2 |
| Mr. James' <i>Heather Bell</i> | 3 |

This race was obviously *Gamecock's* from the first. Run in 1.1 minute.

4.—THE LADIES PURSE.

Presented,—For Japan Ponies. Weight for inches. Entrance \$10. Half-a-mile.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Mr. E. Ola's <i>Ma-htotz</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Morrison's <i>Despair</i> | 2 |
| Mr. J. Robertson's <i>Tim Whiffer</i> | 3 |

Ma-htotz and *Despair* took up the running, but the latter was passed after some distance by *Ma-htotz* who had the honours of the race. *Despair* won the second place very narrowly. Time 1.2.

5.—THE DIPLOMATIC CUP.

Value \$200, presented by the Diplomatic Body, for China Ponies. Winners of One Race at this Meeting, 4 lbs.; of two or more Races, 10 lbs. extra. Previous non-starters to carry 12st. Second Pony to receive one third of Entrance Fees, and Third Pony to have his stake. Weight for inches. Entrance \$10. One Mile.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. St. George's <i>Dixie</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Radley's <i>Ivanhoe</i> | 2 |

6.—THE KANAGAWA CUP.

Presented by the Japanese Officers at Kanagawa,—value \$200, for Japan Ponies. Winners at this Meeting of One Race, 4 lbs.; of Two Races, 7 lbs. extra. Three Ponies from opposing Stables to start or no Race. Second Pony to receive one third of Entrance Fees. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. One-mile-and-a-quarter.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mr. Marlborough's <i>Typhoon</i> | 1 |
| Dr. Buckle's <i>Massaki</i> | 2 |
| Mr. Mason's <i>Rising Sun</i> | 3 |

A false start occurred, *Typhoon* and *Massaki* going round the race course. After the second start *Typhoon* made the best running and came in an easy winner.

7.—THE MANDARIN CUP.

Value \$100, for China Ponies. Winners of Two Races at this Meeting excluded; of One Race, 7 lbs. extra. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. Three-quarters-of-a-mile.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Polcen's <i>Gamecock</i> | 1 |
| Mr. James' <i>Dibs</i> | 2 |
| Mr. Radley's <i>Genserio</i> | 3 |

This was an excellent race in which for some time *Gamecock* appeared to have all the advantage. He was subsequently overtaken by *Dibs*, but was finally brought to the post a winner by about a length. Time 1.39 minutes.

8.—THE TOKEI CUP.

Presented,—value \$100, for Japan Ponies. Winner of Kanagawa Cup excluded. To be handicapped by the Stewards after the Ladies Purse has been run. Ponies entered previously, and not running, to carry top weight. Entrance \$5. Five Furlongs.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Ola's, <i>Lodi</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Von Zittau's, <i>Rouge</i> | 2 |
| Mr. Morrison's, <i>Despair</i> | 3 |

This was an uninteresting race. *Lodi* took the lead and won with ease. Time 1.20 min.

9.—THE SCURRY STAKES.

For all Ponies. A Sweepstake of \$5, with \$50 added from the Fund. China Ponies, 11st.; Japan Ponies, 10st. Last Pony to pay Second Pony's entrance stakes. One-quarter-of-a-mile.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. James' <i>Heather Bell</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Polcen's <i>Gamecock</i> | 2 |
| Mr. Nicolas' <i>Acambi</i> | 3 |

Gamecock and *Acambi* led off together, but the honours fell to *Heather Bell* who won by a slight advantage. Time 0.31 minutes.

The Ladies' Purse was presented to the winner by Miss Goodwin, and was suitably acknowledged by the recipient.

Third Day, Saturday, May 16th 1874.

The morning was ushered in by severe showers of rain, and a lurking threat of their continuance was apparent in the quarter of the wind. Towards noon, however, the weather became clearer and the sun appeared at intervals, and at the usual hour a moderately large attendance of visitors was present on the course. The Grand Stand was occupied by a thin sprinkling of ladies. The first race was—

1.—THE HURDLE RACE.

Value \$75, for all Ponies, over Six (6) flights of hurdles. China, 11st., Japan, 10st. 7 lbs. Entrance \$5. Once-round-and-a-distance.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Carter's <i>Snowball</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Radley's <i>Ivanhoe</i> | 2 |

Time 2.45 minutes.

2.—THE LLOYD SOUVENIR CUP.

Presented by T. THOMAS, Esq.,—value \$200, a compulsory entry for all Ponies, winners at this Meeting; optional to beaten Ponies. Weight: China Ponies, 11st.; Japan Ponies, 10st. Entrance \$10. One-mile-and-a-quarter.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Mr. Marlborough's <i>Typhoon</i> | 1 |
| Mr. St. George's <i>Dixie</i> | 2 |
| Mr. E. Ola's <i>Lodi</i> | 3 |

After some slight difficulty a start was effected *Lodi* running well forward. He was, however, soon overtaken by *Typhoon* and *Dixie* and a keenly contested race ended in the victory of the former. Time 2.57 minutes.

3.—THE SOLACE CUP.

Value \$100, for all beaten Japan Ponies at this Meeting. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. One Mile.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Dr. Buckle's <i>Massaki</i> | 1 |
| Mr. Von Zittau's <i>Rouge</i> | 2 |
| Mr. Polcen's <i>Friar Tuck</i> | 3 |

After some little difficulty all got away fairly together. A good race resulted in the placing of the horses as above. Time 2.27 minutes.

4.—THE CHINA CONSOLATION.

Value \$100, for all beaten China Ponies at this Meeting. Weight for inches. Entrance \$5. One Mile.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. Morrison's <i>Crusader</i> | 1 |
| Mr. E. Ola's <i>Carrots</i> | 2 |

Run in 2.20 minutes. The advantages in the early part of the race appeared to be with *Woodcock* and *Moorcock* who were, however, soon overtaken by *Carrots*. *Crusader* either warmed slowly to his work, or was judiciously kept "waiting" by his rider; but at the half mile he was pressed forward, and arrived, without great difficulty, a winner.

5.—THE SAYONARA STAKES.

A Handicap for Ponies. Entrance \$10, with \$50 added from the Fund, non-acceptances, half forfeit. Entries to be made to the Stewards at the close of the 2nd day's racing, and handicap published the same evening. Acceptance to be declared to the Clerk of the Course after the Hurdle Race, First Pony to receive, 70 per cent; Second Pony, 20 per cent; and Third Pony, 10 per cent entrance money. One Mile.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Mr. E. Ola's <i>Ma-htotz</i> | 1 |
| Mr. James' <i>Dibs</i> | 2 |
| Mr. Radley's <i>Ivanhoe</i> | 3 |

A considerable difficulty attended the start for this race which was at length effected, giving, apparently, the advantage to *Ma-htotz*, whose length of stride obviously told in taking the rising ground. At the half-mile he was gained upon to same extent by *Dibs*, and from this point to the winning post a closely contested race ensued, terminating, however, in the victory of *Ma-htotz* by about one length. *Ivanhoe* came in third. Run in 2.20 minutes.

Correspondence.

BORNEO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE *Japan Weekly Mail*.

Nagasaki, May, 1874.

DEAR SIR.—Permit me to correct a mistake in the leading article "Formosa Expedition" in the *Japan Mail* of 24th April 1874, No. 8, where we read: "It is not very long ago that some step of the kind, though with different objects, was contemplated by the governments of Italy and (we think) of Holland upon the island of Borneo, a territory of prodigious extent our jurisdiction in which is extremely limited. But immediate measures were taken by England to prevent this, and her protest was quite sufficient to set all doubts at rest as to the manner in which she viewed the intention." It seems the author of this leading article is quite unaware of the fact that nearly two-thirds of the large island of Borneo is actually under Dutch sovereignty. The northern parts of the island comprising the *Sula-territory*, *Borneo* and *Maludu* are the only quite independent states. The small territory of the Sultan of *Serawak* (or *Sarawak*, as it is sometimes written) and the small island *Labuan* are the only *British* possessions in Borneo. The right of Holland upon the whole island of Borneo, excepting the said States, was recognised after the battle of *Banjermassing* in 1860, and quite the same as the right of Great Britain upon the many Indian states under her jurisdiction or sovereignty.

The only diplomatic action of Great Britain in the Dutch colony of Borneo existed in securing the rights of the Sultan of *Sarawak* and the right of possession of the island *Labuan*, by the English. The demarcation line of the territory under the sovereignty of Holland runs from *Sambas* on the west coast, the river *Kapuas*, and the river *Buluang* on the east coast. The island is divided in two sections and many assistant-residencies (provinces.) 1st. The west-coast territory with the Residency and Capital *Pontianak* and the assistant-residencies, *Gambas*, *Montado*, *Sukadana*, and, in the interior of the island, *Sintang*. 2nd. The south and east-coast territory with the Residency and Capital *Banjermassing* and the assistant-residencies, *Sampit*, great and small *Dayak*, *Behompei*, in the interior, *Amuntai*, *Martapura*, *Tabenu* and *Kutei*.

A glance at a good map will show you that the said places of government embrace nearly two-thirds of the island of Borneo, which is, as we all know, very sparsely populated. The number of inhabitants is estimated to be not more than two millions.

When the government of Italy looked for a place where to send convicts, she certainly thought about the northern independent states of the island.

It is only in love of truth that I write these few statements. Believe me,

Yours respectfully,

GEERTS.

Law Report.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

On Monday, the 11th, at 2 o'clock, an enquiry was held at the British Camp, Bluff, before Hiram S. Wilkinson, Esq., H. B. M.'s Vice Consul, on the body of William James Ingram, a private of Royal Marine Light Infantry, who came to his death on Saturday evening, 9th instant, by a pistol shot, supposed to have been inflicted by his own hand. The Jury empanelled was composed of Messrs. H. A. Crane, J. H. Hall, and A. Jaffray; who were duly sworn, and proceeded to view the body.

John Caldwell, Staff-Surgeon, R.M.I., sworn:—Shortly after 9 o'clock on the 9th instant, I was called to see the deceased, Private Wm. Ingram, R.M. On examination I found him profoundly insensible, with a wound in the region of the right ear, from which brain substance was protruding. The patient remained insensible until death took place, at 4.40 this morning.

To a Juror:—He never spoke; he was insensible.

To Coroner:—The wound was a bullet wound. The bullet traversed both hemispheres of the brain, and lodged in the bone of the skull, on the opposite side. There can be no doubt as to the bullet being there: I have felt it with a probe.

Wm. H. Pusey, Surgeon, R. M. L. I., sworn:—I have heard the

evidence given by Dr. Caldwell. I agree with his statement as to the cause of death in every particular. I examined deceased half an hour after Dr. Caldwell did so. He was in a comatose state from a wound in the right ear, through which blood and brains were exuding. He remained in that condition until 4.40 this morning, when he died. I have since examined the body, and ascertained that the bullet had traversed both hemispheres of the brain, and lodged in the inner table of the skull, on the opposite side. The direction it had taken was upwards and slightly backwards.

Charles Mitchell, sworn:—I live at the "Sailor's Home," and am a British subject. On Saturday night, at a quarter past 8, I went up to the canteen to see Private Curties. I went in to see if he was there, but was told he was not in. One of the parties behind the bar told me he lived in the same hut as Ingram. I went over to his hut, and this person (Jean Anderson) was there. I made the remark that had I known she was there I would not have come. She wanted to know the reason of my being in Camp, and I told her the party I came to see. She asked me to take her home, but I objected to do so. I was sitting in the room at the time the shooting happened. I was just about to leave, when one of the men asked me to go to the canteen and have a glass of beer with him. I left at a quarter past 9. Anderson asked me how I was getting on, and so did Ingram. I shook hands with both of them; that was all that passed. I saw her leave the hut. Ingram went out with her, but no one else, to my knowledge. I was in the hut when I heard the report of a pistol, and I said to one of the men in Camp that there was some shooting outside. He remarked that it was pigeon shooting. After a lapse of six minutes I heard another report. One of the men said they were playing with caps. Directly afterwards we heard a shriek. I and two more then ran out into the road. One of them said, "There is some one shot." We got to the place and found her lying there; but I did not see him at all, until I observed him being carried away. I then went to the canteen, and soon after returned home.

To a Juror:—Deceased and Anderson both went out together. I remained inside. There was some row outside on the verandah. It was six minutes after their going out I heard shooting and a shriek. I had been on friendly terms with Anderson; I knew her in New Zealand. I refused to take her home because she was intoxicated. I did take her home once before, but she was intoxicated then.

To Coroner:—I knew of no jealousy on the part of Ingram. I made the remark that had I known her to be inside I would not have gone in; because Ingram might think I came up after her. Ingram never spoke to me about her. At the time, he treated me very coldly. He was a little intoxicated. It was because he was cool towards me that I told him that I would not have gone in had I known she was there. I know of a quarrel which took place between Ingram and this woman before. It happened at Plummer's public-house. He knocked a couple of teeth out of her jaw, on the right side. I do not know what it was about. I did not see the quarrel. She told me she would shoot him like a dog, if she got the chance. This was on a Saturday night. The quarrel took place a week ago last Friday. She drew a revolver out of her breast, and swore by the Eternal God that she would shoot him if ever he touched her again. She was swinging the revolver about, and I told her the best thing she could do was to keep quiet. I got the revolver into my possession, but gave it back to her afterwards. The last man I saw who had possession of it was Geo. Dutton, the barman at Plummer's. (Revolver produced). I would know the revolver; this is not the one. When I took the revolver from her, it was loaded in six chambers. Ingram was not present when this occurred. I never saw her present a revolver at Ingram, but she has told me she would shoot him. The reason she gave was, his having knocked two teeth out of her jaw.

To a Juror:—This is not the revolver. The other was a little larger, with some brass mounting.

John Hill, Private, R. M., sworn:—I was in my room on the night of the 9th instant. I heard three reports of a revolver, and went out to see what was the matter. I saw Jenny Anderson lying down, bleeding. I tried to raise her; she said "Let me lie and die." I asked her for the revolver, but she did not speak. I went to Ingram; he repeated the same words, "Let me lie and die." I felt the revolver in his hand. I took it from him and ran away with it. I threw it over some rails, and then followed him to the Hospital. I went back to the canteen and had one quart of beer. In going to my room again I heard them making enquiries for the revolver. I told the Corporal in my room what I had done with

it; that I had taken it from deceased and thrown it away. I then went to the Corporal in the room again, and asked him to take me before the Colonel, with the revolver. He did so.

To Coroner:—This is the pistol; I am confident of it. I put a mark on it.

To Jury:—They were between two and three yards apart when lying on the ground. The revolver was in deceased's hand. There was only one revolver. I threw it away; I was frightened. When I asked her for the revolver she never spoke. (The Coroner and jury here left to view the spot where the bodies were found.) An interval of 5 or 6 minutes elapsed between first and second shots; and of 5 or 6 seconds between the second and third shots.

To Coroner:—The first shot was fired between the end of the three huts in the centre row; between my room and the other one. The last witness, Mitchell, drank the beer with me (afterwards) and another man, R. Cross. I saw them in the hut, but heard none of their conversation. I never saw deceased in possession of a pistol. There was one Japanese woman and several soldiers in the hut with deceased and the woman.

To a Juror:—Deceased was not drunk.

To Coroner:—I did not see what shots were left in the revolver.

To a Juror:—I did not see the Japanese woman after she went out with them. She was gone when I went out.

Jenny Voegel (known as Jenny Anderson), sworn:—I am a German subject, (a woman present was here requested to leave the Court.) I recognise this letter, (Letter produced). I received it on Saturday. It was written on the evening of the 8th, I know the handwriting, it is Ingram's, it was addressed to me. (The letter, which was of a most affectionate nature, was here read). I came up to the Camp about six o'clock. I brought my Japanese girl with me; she begged so hard of me to let her go. I went inside and spoke to Ingram. He did not seem quite in the same mood he generally was in; he was generally so pleased when he saw me. I asked him what was the matter with him; he said he was vexed because he had not written to his sister Mary. He had intended writing to her for some time; and said if she would send him some money he would pay his debts right off, otherwise it would take him three months to get clear. I stayed there until it was quite dark; in the meantime, I told my Japanese girl to lie down, as she felt tired. Ingram was very much excited, and made me very angry at the way he spoke to me. At last he said "Here comes Charley Mitchell. I suppose he is come up to see you, you have made an appointment to meet him." I then said, "Don't be so foolish, you have seen him since I have, and, another thing, he is always annoying me, try to persuade me to go back to Mill's; I will not go back to people who try to separate us." He was getting more excited every minute, when I said, if he made such a fool of himself as that, I should go home. We got up and went outside of the hut, on the verandah. We stood there for some little time. He said he would shoot himself, and me too. He had a revolver in his hand, but it was dark, and I could not see very well. When I saw the revolver I thought it was an old rusty one, and that he wished to frighten me. I begged him five or six times to give it up to me. My Japanese girl said, "O, missis, come home," when Ingram said, "do not go so soon as this." After that, he put his arms round me, and kissed me, and said "I can't bear it, this will be the last." He let go with one arm, when I felt something cold strike my ear. I did not at first think it was a shot; I was afterwards unconscious, until I found myself in the Camp Hospital. This is my revolver; I recognise it by the number on it. I never saw it since the day the bear was shot in Homura Road. I have had it in my possession fifteen or eighteen months.

To CORONER:—I have known deceased about two years, but did not know much of him until the time of the fire in March last. I am a married woman, but went to the Consul to try and get a divorce. There were arrangements pending for our being married, if I could get a divorce. That arrangement was in force on the 9th instant, and on that day I wrote to the Consul to know if I could get a divorce. Deceased said if I got it he would ask permission from his Colonel to get married. On the night of the 9th he asked me if I had got a divorce. I told him the Consul was not at home. We have had quarrels; once we had a bit of a quarrel because he struck me. On the evening of Friday, 1st inst., I had a quarrel with him. He was drunk. It was through drink we quarrelled. He had expressed jealousy towards Mitchell before this. I told him Mitchell had never been on intimate terms with me. He wrote me a letter, and said he would come for an answer at 11 a.m. next day. He often used to say "I wish I had money enough to take you out of this house, (Mill's); it has been

my ruin." Losing his stripes seemed to prey on his mind. I was standing near the edge of the verandah when I was shot, but I think I must have reeled back a few paces; I remember nothing afterwards. He was excited all the evening. He generally was so pleased to see me, but that evening he was quite different. I did not hear the report; I might have heard two reports, but was so excited at the time. Ingram was in the habit of going to my room and washing his hands there. He told me, the night the bear was shot, that he had taken my revolver to clean it for me. I visited him between the 3rd and 9th of May, whilst he was confined to barracks; except on days when he was on guard. We did not quarrel. I never enquired for my revolver; I never missed it. I used to keep it in a small drawer in my bedroom. The revolver was given me. I used to clean it once or twice a week.

To a Juror:—The Coroner said he had endeavoured to find the Japanese woman but had not been able to do so.

George Dutton, sworn:—I live at No. 133, and am a British subject. I had a revolver in my possession, belonging to Anderson. I haven't it now. I think I should know it, but could not swear positively to its identification. She had the revolver back from me. I do not remember when, but think about two and a half months ago; it was before the bear was shot in Homura road. (Witness hereupon examined the revolver.) I think it is the same, but will not swear to it. The revolver has either been repaired or altered since I had it. I injured the revolver by taking out the chambers and spiking them all with wooden pegs; I plugged the barrel with wood. The reason I did so was, because she once drew it on a friend of mine, before. (A spring of the revolver produced was broken.)

To the Coroner:—She drew the revolver once before on Mr. Plummer. I witnessed no dispute between deceased and Anderson. If there was any, it would only have been a sort of lover's quarrel. The quarrel I saw was about eight days ago. It amounted to nothing; merely simple words. It is very difficult, in this country, to tell who are lovers, and who not. I saw no blows struck. She could not have had two teeth knocked out, unless they were false ones, and then she must have put 'em in again, before next morning, without my knowing.

(The revolver was here handed to an Armourer Sergeant for examination, to ascertain if any spring was broken.)

Anthony Arnold, Private, R. M., sworn:—On Saturday, the 9th inst., at about 9 p. m., I was under the verandah of the hut in which Ingram lived. I went outside, on the off side from where this affair happened, nearer the sea. I heard the report. George Johns was with me on the verandah. I heard some one cry out. I ran in the direction I thought it came from. After I got off the verandah I heard something like a firelock twice. I looked, and from the light of a window that was opposite me, I could see a man with a revolver in his hand. His hand was raised above his shoulder. I next heard the report, and went to the assistance of that young person (Mrs. Voegel), and helped to assist her to the hospital. I saw the deceased and her; they were lying together.

To a Juror:—I was in the hut with the deceased. I heard no quarrel. I went out and left them there. I saw a man with a revolver, and ran in that direction; but before I reached the woman I heard the second report and saw Ingram fall. I am sure of all this. No other revolver was near her. I should have had Ingram in a second, but he fell. I only heard two shots. If a shot had been fired six minutes before I should have heard it; as I was on the parade near the flag staff, within fifteen yards of my hut. When I saw deceased last he was not in liquor.

(As it was then getting dark, the Coroner and Jury, seeing no reason to the contrary, gave a certificate to allow of the burial of deceased.)

George Johns, Private R. M., sworn:—I was in B. C. hut, where Ingram lived, when he came to me, and asked if I would accompany Anderson down the hill to her jin-riki-sha. I said I would. I then put on my tunic; we were by the door. I went outside on to the verandah with them. I saw Ingram was very much excited at the time. They stood talking to each other, on the left of the doorway as they came out. I went to the Canteen for a box of matches; I was away about three or four minutes. When I came back they still stood under the verandah. Ingram's head was on her shoulder; he was crying. When he saw me close to them he said "George, will you stop under the verandah, whilst we go round to the back of the hut by ourselves?" I walked up and down the verandah for seven or eight minutes, when I heard a report of firearms; another man, Arnold, was coming out of the

door at the same time. I said "Someone is shot." He said "Come on, let us see what's up." We ran away, both together. As we got to the end of the hut I saw some one standing just outside C. 2. verandah. I ran towards them. I heard the noise of the spring in cocking the revolver, then at once I heard the report. I was within about six paces. I went up and looked at the man. I was not quite certain it was Ingram. He was quite still. I saw, at the same time, a person lying across the drain. I had before heard the voice of a female, evidently in pain, immediately after the first shot. I went to her, and asked her what was the matter. I saw it was Anderson. She made no answer. I called out, "Who will go for the doctor?" No one answered me, so I thought I had better go myself. I ran to the officer's mess to fetch the doctor. When I came back they were carrying them away.

To a Juror:—I saw it was Ingram.

To the Coroner:—I heard two shots, at an interval of six or eight seconds. If another shot had been fired I did not hear it; but I was on the verandah, I should think, more than six minutes.

Christopher Lanahan, Private, R.M., sworn:—On Saturday night, about 8 o'clock, I was sitting on A. 3 verandah, immediately opposite deceased's hut. I heard the report of firearms. I passed the remark that some one was firing in Camp. Some man said it was not, it was some one hitting the verandah with a stick. About five minutes afterwards, I was going to the door, when I heard a scream, and found a female lying in the drain. I raised her up and called her name. I knew who she was; it was Anderson. I asked what was the matter with her. She said "He's done it." I asked her who she meant, but she did not speak. I raised her up. She pointed towards C. 2 verandah. I then left her, and went to Ingram. I raised him up, and called him by name, but he did not answer. The sergeant of the guard then came. I was one who searched the woman for a revolver. We found none. I was ordered to search her by the sergeant of the guard.

To the Coroner:—I heard two shots fired, at an interval of five minutes. I heard a scream after the second shot. I thought I was the first to arrive. There was no one else there; but some one was running away towards the officer's mess.

To a Juror:—I am certain as to the five minutes interval between the shots. I can swear it was a woman's voice I heard after the second shot.

Colonel J. Fleetwood Richards, R.M., sworn:—I knew the deceased; he has been in the battalion since we left England. I know him to have been a man of a morbid and sensitive disposition, but he was a smart young soldier. I promoted him to be Corporal about two years ago. He held that position for about six months, but, on one occasion, he having received a slight admonition from the officer commanding his company, an admonition that did not affect his position in any way, he immediately absented himself from Camp, with the expressed intention (not expressed to myself) of being reduced. He was absent two days, and was reduced to the ranks accordingly. Since then his conduct has been irregular, but not amounting to crime. On Saturday, 2nd May, I received a letter signed, "J. Anderson," complaining that Ingram had beaten her, and had threatened to do so again. I then sent word to this woman that she had better bring her complaint before a Civil Magistrate. Afterwards, Ingram was confined to barracks. He has been confined to barracks since Monday last, 4th instant.

Dr. Caldwell, recalled, stated that it was his opinion that the deceased committed suicide; and that the wound of the woman was not self-inflicted, but was caused by a pistol shot fired by deceased. Of this, he was in his own mind quite satisfied.

The Coroner then addressed the Jury on the facts of the evidence. Without retiring, the Jury returned a verdict—"That deceased came to his death by a self-inflicted wound, whilst labouring under a fit of temporary insanity."—*Gazette*.

H. B. M.'s PROVINCIAL COURT. Before C. W. GOODWIN, Assistant Judge.

May 9th, 1874.

J. moss Austin was charged by the proprietors of the *Japan Gazette*, with refusing to fulfil a contract service.

The accused pleaded not guilty.

Mr. Moss stated that the accused entered the service of the proprietors of the *Japan Gazette* in November 1873 at a salary of \$85 per month. On the 2nd of this month he paid him his wages in a cheque, desiring him to bring him back the change. The accused did not return, however, and much inconvenience was experienced by his absence.

The accused stated that he was discharged from the office and so ill-used that he did not return after receiving his pay for April.

Mr. Moss stated that he was compelled to discharge the prisoner in consequence of his ill-conduct.

His Honour said that as the prosecution made no claim for damages, and the agreement was only verbal, he could not punish the accused under the Criminal Act. The case would, therefore, be dismissed.

H. B. M.'s PROVINCIAL COURT.

Before C. W. GOODWIN, Esq. Assistant Judge.

Monday, May 11th, 1874.

George Bates, was charged with drunkenness.

Braund, a European constable, stated that acting upon information that a man had fallen into the canal he had made a search for him, and subsequently found him on board a Japanese fishing boat, which had rescued him from the water where he had been for three-quarters of an hour. He had at first thought him dead, but the usual restoratives revived him and he then discovered that he was intoxicated.

The accused, who said he was a seaman about to ship in the *Westminster*, was sentenced to seven days imprisonment, or until the departure of the vessel.

U. S. CONSULAR COURT.

Before G. N. MITCHELL, Esq., Vice Consul.

James Wallace, a half-caste, charged with assaulting several persons in Takashima-cho and other offences, was sentenced to 30 days imprisonment.

Several American men-of-war's men, charged with intoxication were dealt with in the usual manner.

Extracts.

THE SHANGHAI RIOT.

(From the "North China Daily News.")

About two o'clock in the afternoon, a policeman on his beat at the western end of the Rue du Consulat was followed by a crowd of about 200 Chinese. He was hit in the side, his sword taken hold of from behind and pulled from the scabbard, his shako knocked off, and the man was otherwise beaten very badly. Some Europeans passing came to the rescue, and conveyed him to the Central Station. The next thing heard at the Station was through Mr. Percebois, the Inspector of Roads, who came in with his wife and five children. Mr. Percebois showed wounds on his head, and stated that his house had been surrounded, the windows smashed in, the rooms gutted, and that the place was also being set on fire. He had been injured by stones, while his wife had been dragged by the hair along the ground. She managed to escape down the Rue Wekwei however, and three sailors from the mail steamer *Tigre*—who were also assaulted, and one of whom lost his watch—secured the safety of the children and brought them to the Station. M. Barbe, Chef de Police, sent to advise the Consul-General of the disturbance, and went with the police at hand, under arms, to disperse the crowd. When they arrived they found a great number of Chinamen, dancing in rings, with the clothes of Mrs. Percebois parcelled out amongst them, after having gutted the house and smashed everything to minute atoms. The house was a perfect wreck from top to bottom. The police fired three or four shots, as M. Barbe states, in the air, to intimidate the mob.

M. Barbe at this time received instructions from the Consul-General advising prudence and a quiet bearing, and he accordingly prepared to retire his men, feeling that, with weapons in their hands, they might be apt to retaliate for the stones flung at them. Another reason for retiring was that a report had reached M. Barbe that the Municipal Hall, which he was compelled to leave comparatively unguarded, had been attacked by a section of the mob. While they were coming back, M. Barbe states that he heard some shots fired, but that they were not by his men. As soon as they got back, the Municipal Compound was partly surrounded, and the mob began to tear down some wooden railings and smash lamp posts. Opposite the main entrance two Europeans in a trap were stopped and compelled to go back. Sentries were then placed all round the compound, inside.

About 7 o'clock the mob again came to the charge, and set fire to M. Percebois' house. M. Charrier's stables, exactly opposite, were also set fire to, as well as some new Chinese houses in the Rue Hué, in the same neighborhood. The mob prevented the mafcoos from taking out the carriages stored at M. Charrier's, which were therefore destroyed, but the ponies got away. About this time a

lieutenant of the French gun-vessel *Couleuvre* came on the spot with twenty men, and took command of the situation. Fifteen volunteers were sent under a sergeant of police to protect the gasworks, and remained there. The police did not return to the scene of the fray.

At 9 o'clock the East Gate Police Station, where only four men were placed, was attacked, and twenty sailors from the U. S. S. *Ashuelot* (of whom a detachment of eighty with one gun had been landed) were sent there. Forty more were temporarily stationed in the Consular Compound and the remaining twenty at the Hotel Municipal, where they were quartered in the large hall. A hundred and fifty Chinese soldiers from Kuo-changmean were also sent in by the Chinese authorities, at the request of the Consul-General. The Chehsien was asked to catch ten of the leaders of the mob, in order to afford a clue to the real raisers of the disturbance, but up till 10 p.m. only three prisoners had been made. Many of the Chinese in the neighborhood of the fires and of the Municipal Hall began to remove their effects, owing to warnings they had received from the rioters that their houses would be burnt down. M. Barbe's detectives had reported yesterday morning that an incendiary attack was being planned, but he had hoped that it only related to a mass gathering of the Ningpo men, such as had already been held.

About 6.30 M. Voisin, Chairman of the French Municipal Council, sent a request to Mr. Fearon, Chairman of the English Council, for the support of the S. V. C., to which Mr. Fearon replied that he would lose no time in taking steps to give the desired aid. Mr. Fearon did so after consultation with the Consuls and the Commanders of the Naval forces.

The foregoing relates almost wholly to the attack on French property, but with this the mob had not stopped. Following up the attack on M. Percebois' house, they at the same time assailed the neighboring one, tenanted by Miss Maclean, late of the Union Chapel Mission. Here they knocked in the windows, and assaulted the inmates—Miss Maclean, and Messrs. D. Cranston and Weir (chief-engineer of the steamer *Gordon Castle*). Mr. Weir escaped with fortunately slight injuries, but Mr. Cranston received a severe wound on the head from a stone, as well as other injuries, which have necessitated his removal to Hospital. Miss Maclean was thrown down the stair of the house and roughly treated, but upon her culling out to the mob in Chinese that she was not French, they desisted, and friendly hands helped her to a place of safety. The furniture of this house was then partially saved by foreigners who went to the scene after the French police had checked the mob. The appearance of a number of foreigners and the Chinese authorities—the Chehsien and Magistrate of the French Mixed Court—restored a season of quiet; still the mass of Chinese remained on the space between the places attacked and the Ningpo joss-house, and surged about excitedly. At this time there were probably over 5,000 Chinese on the ground. The Chehsien and his clinic were the objects of hostile demonstrations, but he was ultimately allowed to pass through. One Chinaman had been shot, either by the police, by Mr. Percebois, or by a friend who had been with him when the house was attacked, and round the body a dense mass of his countrymen were gathered. About 6.30 foreigners began to leave the scene, under the impression that the worst had happened, but as it became dusk, the rioters returned to work. They flung stones very freely at passers-by—Mr. Fisher (of Messrs. Muller & Fisher) was cut on the temple and mouth, and had some teeth knocked in, while driving along the Rue du Consulat in his carriage with Captain Lowell; and, we believe, other cases occurred. The fire-bell again announced that incendiary had been resumed, and it was found that the premises mentioned in the particulars furnished us by M. Barbe, had been fired. A number of (French) volunteers and firemen were stoned, and shots were fired and bayonets brought into use, with the result that at least three more of the rioters lost their lives, while one was sent to hospital dangerously wounded.

The English police lent assistance in overawing the mob and protecting the property threatened, and they arrested two of the ringleaders, as well as four foreign sailors, who were found bearing off some casks of wine.

At 8 P. m. the Chairman of the Council called out the Volunteers, who were ordered to muster immediately at the Main Guard, where the Treaty Consuls also met in consultation. The men were formed up in the road, Rangers on the Right, and Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Rifle Companies and the Mitholoongs in the order named. The news was that the excitement was subsiding; but it was thought well to march the Force into the French Settlement, and especially round the quarters where the rioting had been most active. Even if

if their active services were not required, their presence would tend to deter further outbreak. Captain Cann announced that Captain Hart would take command for the evening; and the Force was countermarched to the Bund, along which they proceeded to the Rue du Consulat, and down that street to the Municipal Hall. Here a halt was called, while further measures were concerted, and seamen from the *Ashuelot* came up. The whole Force was then marched down past the scene of the conflagration to the Ningpo joss-house, where it was rumoured that some of the ringleaders were shut up—as well as that a number of rioters were assembled on the Green, with the intent to stone all comers. Whether the reports were imaginative, or whether any Chinese who may have been out there, decamped on hearing of the approaching Force, we cannot say. At any rate not a man was seen.

The Volunteers were then formed in column opposite the entrance to the Joss-house (in the French Road), the Rangers patrolling the road, while the Sailors proceeded—in the presence, and by the wish of, the Chehsien—to break open a side door on the Settlement side, through which the Magistrate, accompanied by the British, American, German and other Consuls at once entered. But here the result was the same—no one was found; and after a thorough search, the Volunteers were marched back in reversed order to the Bund.

Near the Custom House, the Force was formed up in column, while Captain Hart addressed a few words of thanks to the men for the steadiness with which they had obeyed orders; and announced that in case of fresh alarm four guns would be fired from the U. S. corvette *Ashuelot*, when they were at once to muster at the Main Guard. Mr. Fearon, as Civil Commandant of the Corps, also complimented the men upon the readiness with which they had turned out, and on their steady and soldierly bearing. Fortunately, their active services had not been needed; but their conduct gave a proof of efficiency which would increase the confidence of the community in their capacity to maintain order if required. He thanked them in the name of the community.

The Force was then dismissed—at about 9.30 a.m.

At a late hour last night, the ruins of the two houses first attacked, as well as of M. Charrier's stables and several native houses were still burning; and the desolation was rendered more complete by the spoliation of the gardens attached to some of them, which had been ruthlessly laid waste.

THE RIOT IN THE FRENCH CONCESSION.

Subsequent to the time to which our report of yesterday extended, no fresh attempt to disturb the peace of the Settlement was made. Chinese soldiery occupied the streets in the neighborhood of the disturbance during the night of Sunday-Monday, and the men-of-war's men from the *Couleuvre* and *Ashuelot* guarded the Municipal buildings. Some few foreigners residing nearest the threatened quarter removed to the English side, and many of the native residents took the same precaution; but there arose no occasion for alarm. On Monday morning it was reported that disaffected crowds again filled the streets, and an "Express" reminded the Volunteers to turn out at the pre-arranged signal of four guns. A visit to the locality, however, showed that though certain portions of the streets were unusually crowded, and a number of people were grouped about the Ningpo joss-house, all was perfectly quiet. The bodies of the dead, to the number of six, had been removed across the creek to a place close by the City Wall, where thousands visited them; but there was no display of feeling.

During the day the following proclamation was issued by M. Godeaux, Consul-General for France.

AN URGENT PROCLAMATION.

"Since I have been in office in Shanghai, all the merchants of the Settlement have received protection and lived in quietude. At present, erroneous reports have been spread stating that the French intend to remove or destroy the buildings of the Sz-ming-kung-so (Ningpo Joss-house), and that it is also intended to build horse roads on the grounds, and thus to interfere with or damage the graves. These are the reports of worthless men, who are spreading false rumours to excite the people. The head men of the Sz-ming-kung-so at present petition to have the plans of the roads changed, and a further request has been received from the Taotai and likewise one from the Chehsien, begging that we will give consideration to the public feeling. An instruction has accordingly been sent to the Municipal Council to reconsider and change their previous plans, so as not to injure the buildings of the Guild or to disturb the graves in the cemetery. They are not only not to construct a road,

but they are to desire the head men of the Sz-ming-kung-so to erect a wall round the limits of their property, to define the boundaries, and thus avoid future misunderstanding."

The foregoing proclamation was about to be issued when, unexpectedly, a lot of foolish people, not waiting for a reply to their representations, daringly assembled together and created disturbance. The matter is much to be regretted, and on this account we issue a proclamation ordering all the merchants and people in the Concession that they should live peaceably and attend to their business, and not give ready ear to false reports, which lead to matters to be repented of when too late.

The effect of the Consul-General's instruction (or request) to the Municipal Council, is shown in the minute of a special meeting of the Council given below. The Council unanimously refuse, in view of the excesses of the previous day, to reconsider the question of the roads, till the tendency to riot has disappeared, and justice—by which we suppose is meant compensation—has been afforded. The Council also express the opinion that the regrettable occurrences of Sunday might have been easily stayed at the outset, had the Consul-General taken a more energetic attitude.

Though there are doubtless details of interest which might be added, we do not find ourselves in a position to offer much more than appeared in our last issue, regarding the disturbance itself. On one important matter, viz., the loss of life, we have made many inquiries, but without satisfactory result. Accounts conflict as to who engaged the crowd between 7 o'clock and 8.30. Certain it is, however, that the mob was then working itself up to the crowning pitch of recklessness. Men were rushing about with lighted wisps of straw, and some foreigners who were regarded as neutral in the affair, were warned away. The mob deliberated for some time whether the house which Miss Maclean had occupied should be included in the conflagration, and once resolved to spare it, but afterwards set it on fire. A party of irregular volunteers, it is stated, fired into the crowd and charged them with the bayonet. Some of these men had received arms from the Municipality; but there were others, we are told, who were acting with private weapons and in too independent a manner. That the mob required a severe check by force of arms, there is no doubt; but the check should have been offered by an organised body, and not by individual action which is likely rather to irritate than to subdue. And we are sorry to have to report what we conceive to have been, in some instances, judging from the appearance of the bodies, an unnecessary amount of violence. One informant says he saw a man shot; after he fell he endeavoured to escape, upon which his assailant ran up and hewed him down with a cutlass. Another reports that he saw a man fire deliberately at some one standing quietly by the edge of the crowd. A third gentleman, who assisted some of the wounded to Dr. Johnston's Chinese Hospital, stated that he noticed what he considered attempts on life, not altogether warranted by the immediate emergency, and that when he pointed this out to the firing party, he was told to mind his own business. We believe these acts should not be laid to the charge of the French police, but of some rowdy and irresponsible persons who found their way to the place, seeking excitement, and even plunder.

Respectable Ningpo-men say that comparatively few of their number were among the crowd, which was largely made up of rowdies hoping to get loot through their incendiary proceedings—men who, as one Chinaman told us, are reckless of their own lives or of those of others. Shanghai is no doubt the haunt of many such, and the affair is only too striking an illustration of necessity for being ready to meet an emergency like the present. Besides the six found dead on the ground, from shots and bayonet wounds, eight more were taken to the Chinese Hospital. Of these, one man, shot through the liver, has died, and his body lies unclaimed. The other cases were of a gunshot wound in the right lung, sufferer likely to recover; gunshot wound of the right thigh, which involved amputation of the limb; a man who had his thumb cut off and a severe scalp wound; one who had his forefinger amputated; one with a sword fracture of the skull, and a boy suffering from injuries caused it is supposed by getting trampled on. We are glad to think that, if sharp punishment has been meted out to some of the aggressors, humanity has also interposed to save others from the consequences of their folly.

INSECTIVOROUS PLANTS.

I.

That animals should feed upon plants is natural, and the reverse seems impossible. But the adage, "*Natura non agit saltatim*," has its application even here. It is the gradual rather than nature

that draws hard and fast lines everywhere, and marks out abrupt boundaries where she shades off with gradations. However opposite the parts which animals and vegetables play in the economy of the world as the two opposed kingdoms of organic nature, it is becoming more and more obvious that they are not only two contiguous kingdoms, but are parts of one whole—antithetical and complementary to each other, indeed; but such "thin partitions do the bounds divide" that no definition yet framed holds good without exception. This is a world of transition, in more senses than is commonly thought; and one of the lessons which the philosophical naturalist learns, or has to learn, is, that differences the most wide and real in the main, and the most essential, may nevertheless be here and there connected or bridged over by gradations. There is a limbo filled with organisms which never rise high enough in the scale to be manifestly either animal or plant, unless it may be said of some of them that they are each in turn and neither long. There are undoubted animals which produce the essential material of vegetable fabric, or build up a part of their structure of it, or elaborate the characteristic leaf-green which, under solar light, assimilates inorganic into organic matter, the most distinguishing function of vegetation. On the other hand, there are plants—microscopic, indeed, but unquestionable—which move spontaneously and freely around and among animals that are fixed and rooted. And, to come without further parley to the matter in hand, while the majority of animals feed directly upon plants, "for 'tis their nature to," there are plants which turn the tables and feed upon them. Some, being parasitic upon living animals, feed insidiously and furtively; these, although really cases in point, are not so extraordinary, and, as they belong to the lower orders, they are not much regarded, except for the harm they do. There are others, and those of the highest orders, which lure or entrap animals in ways which may well excite our special wonder—all the more so since we are now led to conclude that they not only capture but consume their prey.

As respects the two or three most notable instances, the conclusions which have been reached are among the very recent acquisitions of physiological science. Curiously enough, however, now that they are made out, it appears that they were in good part long ago attained, recorded, and mainly forgotten. The earlier observations and surprises shared the common fate of discoveries made before the time, or by those who were not sagacious enough to bring out their full meaning or importance. Vegetable morphology, dimly apprehended by Linnæus, initiated by Caspar Frederic Wolff, and again, independently in successive generations, by Goethe and by De Candoile, offers a parallel instance. The botanists of Goethe's day could not see any sense, advantage, or practical application to be made of the proposition that the parts of a blossom answer to leaves; and so the study of homologies had long to wait. Until lately it appeared to be of no consequence whatever (except perhaps to the insect-) whether *Prosera* and *Sarracenia* caught flies or not; and even *Dionæa* excited only unreflecting wonder as a vegetable anomaly. As if there were real anomalies in nature, and some one plant possessed extraordinary powers denied to all others and (as was supposed) of no importance to itself!

That most expert of fly-catchers, *Dionæa*, of which so much has been written and so little known until lately, came very near revealing its secret to Solander and Ellis a hundred years ago, and doubtless to John Bartram, our botanical pioneer, its probable discoverer, who sent it to Europe. Ellis, in his unpublished letter to Linnæus, with which the history begins, described the structure and action of the living trap correctly; noticed that the irritability which called forth the quick movement closing the trap, entirely resided in the few small bristles of its upper face; that this whole surface was studded with glands, which probably secreted a liquid; and that the trap did not open again when an insect was captured, even upon the death of the captive, although it opened very soon when nothing was caught, or when the irritation was caused by a bit of straw or any such substance. It was Linnæus who originated the contrary and erroneous statement, which has long prevailed in the books, that the trap reopened when the fatigued captive became quiet, and let it go; as if the plant caught flies in mere play and pastime! Linnæus also omitted all allusion to a secreted liquid—which was justifiable, as Ellis does not state that he had actually seen any, and if he did see it quite mistook its use, supposing it to be, like the nectar of flowers, a lure for insects, a bait for the trap. Whereas, in fact, the lure, if there be any, must be an odor (although nothing is perceptible to the human olfactory); for the liquid secreted by the glands never appears until the trap has closed upon some insect and held it at least for some hours a prisoner. Within twenty-four or forty-eight

hours this glairy liquid is abundant, bathing and macerating the body of the perished insect. Its analogue is not the nectar of flowers, but the saliva or the gastric juice!

The observations which compel such an inference are recent, and the substance of them may be briefly stated. The late Rev. Dr. M. A. Curtis (by whose death, two years ago, we lost one of our botanists and the master in his especial line, mycology), forty years and more ago resided at Wilmington, North Carolina, in the midst of the only district to which the *Dionæa* is native; and he published, in 1834, in the first volume of the 'Journal of the Boston Society of the Boston Society of Natural History,' by far the best account of this singular plant which had then appeared. He remarks that "the little prisoner is not crushed and suddenly destroyed, as is sometimes supposed," for he had often liberated "captive flies and spiders, which sped away as fast as fear or joy could hasten them." But he neglected to state, although he must have noticed the fact, that the "two sides of the trap, at first concave to the contained insect, at length flatten and close down firmly upon the prey, exerting no inconsiderable pressure, and ensuring the death of any soft-bodied insect, if it had not already succumbed to the confinement and salivation. This last Dr. Curtis noticed, and first discerned its import, although he hesitated to pronounce upon its universality. That the captured insects were in some way "made subservient to the nourishment of the plant" had been conjectured from the first. Dr. Curtis "at times [and he might have always at the proper time] found them enveloped in a fluid of mucilaginous consistence, which seems to act as a solvent; the insects being more or less consumed in it." This was verified and the digestive character of the liquid well-nigh demonstrated six or seven years ago by Mr. Canby of Wilmington, Del., who, upon a visit to the sister-town of North Carolina, and afterwards at his home, followed up Dr. Curtis's suggestions with some capital observations and experiments. These were published at Philadelphia in the tenth volume of *Meehan's Gardeners' Monthly*, August, 1868, but they do not appear to have attracted the attention which they merited.

The points with Mr. Canby made out are, that this fluid is always poured out around the captured insect in due time, "if the leaf is good condition and the prey suitable"; that it comes from the leaf itself, and not from the decomposing insect (for when the tray caught a plum-cureulio, the fluid was poured out while he was still alive, though very weak, and endeavoring, ineffectually, to eat his way out); that bits of raw beef, although sometimes rejected after awhile, were generally acted upon in the same manner—i.e., closed down upon tightly, slavered with the liquid, dissolved mainly, and absorbed; so that, in fine, the fluid may well be said to be analogous to the gastric juice of animals, dissolving the prey and rendering it fit for absorption by the leaf. Many leaves remain inactive or slowly die away after one meal; others reopen for a second and perhaps even a third capture, and are at least capable of digesting a second meal.

Before Mr. Canby's experiments had been made, we were aware that a similar series had been made in England by Mr. Darwin with the same results, and with a small but highly curious additional one—namely, that the fluid secreted in the trap of *Dionæa*, like the gastric juice, has an acid reaction. Having begun to mention unpublished results (too long allowed to remain so), it may be well, under the circumstances, to refer to a still more remarkable experiment by the same most sagacious investigator. By a prick with a sharp lancet at a certain point, he has been able to paralyze one-half of the leaf-trap, so that it remained motionless under the stimulus to which the other half responded. Such high and sensitive organization entails corresponding ailments. Mr. Canby tells us that he gave to one of his *Dionæa*-subjects a fatal dyspepsia by feeding it with cheese; and under Mr. Darwin's hands another suffers from paraplegia.

Finally, Dr. Burton-Saunderson's experiments, detailed at the last meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, show that the same electrical currents are developed upon the closing of the *Dionæa*-trap as in the contraction of a muscle.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

May 12, *Tchikatchoff*, Russian steamer, P. Witt, 1,545, from London via Shanghai, May 6th, General, to Van Oordt & Co.
May 12, *Sarah Scott*, British barque, Estell, 565, from Nagasaki April 4th, Coal, to M. M. Co.
May 13, *Keorvage*, U. S. corvette, Captain D. B. Harmony, 1,550 tons, from San Francisco via Honolulu, March 4th and April 7th.

May 13, *Alaska*, American steamer, from San Francisco, April 18th, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
May 14, *Scamfell*, British barque, Appleby, 798, from London, December 10th, General, to Van Oordt & Co.
May 14, *Iron Duke*, H. M. ironclad, Captain Arthur, 3,800 tons, from Nagasaki, May 8th.
May 14, *Menzaleh*, French steamer, Mourrut, 1,008, from Hongkong, May 8th, Mails and General, to M. M. Co.
May 14, *New York*, American steamer, Furber, 2,119, from Shanghai and Ports, May 7th, Mails and General, to P. M. S. S. Co.
May 16, *Southern Ocean*, British ship, Huckstable, 1,260, from Cardiff, November 20th, Coal, to M. M. Co.
May 16, *St. Aubin*, French ship, Blouet, 1,161, from Bordeaux, December 12th, General, to French Government.

DEPARTURES.

May 9, *Bogatyr*, Russian corvette, Captain Schaffroff, 1,800 tons, for Vladivostok.
May 9, *Catharina*, Danish barque, Fischer, 314, for Chefoo, Ballast, despatched by The Captain.
May 13, *Madras*, British steamer, Bernard, 1,325, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
May 13, *Oregonian*, American steamer, Harris, 1,914, for Shanghai and Ports, General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.
May 14, *Alaska*, American steamer, Van Sice, 4,012, for Hongkong, Mails and General, despatched by P. M. S. S. Co.
May 14, *Massilia*, British steamer, Reeve, 1,033, for Nagasaki, General, despatched by P. & O. Co.
May 15, *Italy*, British barque, Bagley, 286, for Amoy, Coal, despatched by Smith, Baker & Co.
May 16, *Jan Peter*, German barque, Moulson, 334, for Nagasaki, Ballast, despatched by Netherlands Trading Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per British steamer *Madras* for Hongkong.—Messrs. Christison, and Peacock.
Per American steamer *Oregonian*, for Hiogo:—Judge C. W. Goodwin, N. J. Hannen and wife, Mrs. Benton and child, Thomas Mason Rymer Jones, G. M. L. C. E., and wife, Rev. Henry Stout and servant, Rev. Wilton Hack, Mrs. C. R. Harris and 2 children, Governor of Chosiu and servant, A. C. McVean, eight Japanese, and 30 in the steerage.
Per American steamer *Alaska*, from San Francisco:—Hon. F. R. Plunkett, wife, child and 2 servants, A. Bellamy, Wm. Lee, Lieut. J. H. Moore, U.S.N.; in the steerage: A. Damiot, N. Schoenberg, G. Schoenberg, Saturo Lee, S. Yamagouchi, and 31 mariners. For Shanghai:—George Gungert. For Hongkong:—Forty-seven in the steerage.
Per American steamer *New York*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Hudson, Bishop Williams, W. W. Cargill, C. Rickerby and servant, F. S. Goodison, M. Dues, M. Wilson, G. Nachtigal, J. Berriek, Okubo and servant, Watanabi and servant, 3 Japanese officers, and 167 in the steerage.
Per French steamer *Menzaleh*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. Stange, Bracon, Palm and wife, Blancheton, Pichery, and Parte.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Madras* for Hongkong.
Silk 133 bales.
Per American steamer *New York*, from Shanghai:—
Treasure \$54,830.00.

REPORTS.

The British ship *Fiery Cross* is loading for this Port at Nagasaki. The British barque *Sarah Scott* reports: sailed from Nagasaki, at 7 a.m. Monday, May 4th, 1874, with winds from N.N.E. North and N.N.W. light to moderate breeze; midnight light airs and calms. The south end of Kosiki bore N. E. by E. and Taka Island S.E., at 6 a.m. on the 5th. Fresh breeze from E.N.E. East and E.S.E., plying ship to windward; noon, Kuro Island bore south distant about 5 miles; at midnight, Mount Horner bore N.E. about 7 miles; on the 6th, winds moderate to fresh from East to N.E., plying ship to windward through Van Diemen Straits; on the 7th, winds and weather variable from light airs and calms with rains, to fresh breeze increasing to strong gales with fine clear weather, wind from N.N.E. to N.N.W., split part sails. This weather continued up to 10 a.m. on the 8th, when the winds moderated; on the 10th at daylight, saw Cape Idsu bearing N.E., at 2 p.m. got a Yokohama pilot on board, Rock Island bearing N.E. by W. about 4 miles; on the 11th at noon, passed Cape Sugami, and at 8 p.m. anchored in Yokohama Bay.

The H. M. ironclad *Iron Duke* reports stormy weather up to Simonoseki fine weather since.

The British barque *Scamfell* reports: moderate winds and the usual weather after leaving London until reaching the Ombay passage, after passing through which into the Pacific on the 4th April, the ship was struck by a white squall, and thrown over on her beam ends, lying in that position for about an hour, until the crew by the Captain's orders succeeded in cutting away the sails, everything having been set at the time. The jib boom and both top-gallant masts were carried away, and nearly all the sails lost. The crew were occupied until the following day in clearing away the wreck, and the ship was found to have a heavy list to port some portion of cargo having shifted, evidently some tar casks as a quantity of tar has been coming up through the pumps ever since. Since the accident have had light winds, calms, and fine weather.

Spoke: the British ship *Sylvia*, April 13th, Cardiff to Japan; French ship *KVMD*, Bordeaux to Yokohama, and the German barque *BBVQ*, Hamburg to Hongkong, April 14th.

The British ship *Southern Ocean* and French ship *St. Aubin* both report fine weather throughout the entire voyage: a great deal of light winds and calms, excepting one or two days rough weather on the Japan Coast.

MERCHANT SHIPPING IN PORT.

STEAMERS.				Destination.
Costa Rica...	Williams	...	...	Shanghai and Ports
Menzaleh ...	Monrrut	...	...	Hongkeng
Naruto ...	DuBois	...	...	Uncertain
New York...	Furber	...	...	Hakodate
Tchihatcheff ...	P. Witt	...	...	Uncertain
SAILING SHIPS.				
Active ...	291 Campbell	...	...	Uncertain
Ferdinand ...	416 Laurensen	...	...	Uncertain
Sarah Scott ...	565 Estell	...	...	Uncertain
Scawfell...	798 Appleby	...	...	Uncertain
Southern Ocean ...	1,260 Hookstable	...	...	Uncertain
St. Aubin ...	1,160 Blouet	...	...	Uncertain
Westminster ...	1,434 Grose	...	...	Uncertain

VESSELS OF WAR IN HARBOUR.

H. M. ironclad ...	Iron Duke	...	...	Captain Arthur
H. B. gun-bout ...	Ringdove	...	...	Captain Singleton
American gun-bout ...	Saco	...	...	Captain McDougal
American corvette ...	Jackawanna	...	...	Captain McCaulley
French gun-boat ...	Bourayne	...	...	Captain Rose
U. S. frigate ...	Harford	...	...	Captain Culhoun
U. S. frigate...	Tuscarora	...	...	Captain Belknap
U. S. corvette ...	Kearsage	...	...	Captain D. B. Harmony

VESSELS EXPECTED.

SAILED.

FOR CHINA PORTS, WITH GOODS FOR JAPAN.
FROM LONDON, via SHANGHAI.—
FROM LIVERPOOL.—"Achilles," str.; "Nestor."
FROM HAMBURG.—

FOR JAPAN DIRECT.

FROM LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA.—"F. C. Clarke," "Vancouver," str.
YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.—"Harrington,"
"Mary Ann Wilson"
FROM LIVERPOOL, FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.—"Ene," "Chusan"
FROM BREMEN.—"Humboldt," str.
FROM GLASGOW.—"Glencarn" str.
FROM NEW YORK.—"New Republic."

LOADING.

AT LIVERPOOL.—"Sarpedon," str.; "Ajax" str.; "Deucalion" str.
AT LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA, HIOGO AND NAGASAKI.—"Japan" str.; "Montgomeryshire" str.; "Estepona," "Glenlyon," str.
AT LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.—"Ambassador," "Coul-nakyle," "Suffolk," "Remus," "John Milton."
AT LONDON, FOR YOKOHAMA.—
AT LIVERPOOL, FOR YOKOHAMA AND HIOGO.—"Cathaya," "Jes-sica."
AT LIVERPOOL, FOR YOKOHAMA.—via Cardiff "Earl of Dufferin."

NEXT MAIL DUE FROM

	Per	Date
HONGKONG AND EUROPE.....	M. M. Str.	May 27th
AMERICA.....	P. M. S. S.	
HONGKONG AND EUROPE.....	P. & O. Str.	
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	P. M. S. S.	May 20th
HAKODATE.....	P. M. S. S.	

NEXT MAIL LEAVES FOR

	Per	Date
HONGKONG.....	P. M. S. S.	
HONGKONG AND EUROPE.....	M. M. Str.	May 20th
AMERICA.....	P. M. S. S.	May 22nd
HONGKONG AND EUROPE.....	P. & O. Str.	May 27th
SHANGHAI, HIOGO & NAGASAKI	P. M. S. S.	May 19th
HAKODATE.....	P. M. S. S.	May 19th

THE "JAPAN MAIL."

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LONDON.....	G. Street, 30, Cornhill.
"	Bates, Hendy & Co., 4, Old Jewry.
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HONGKONG.....	Lane, Crawford & Co.
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NAGASAKI.....	China & Japan Trading Co.

Who are authorized to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements for these Papers.

Evening 11.36 P.M.

NOTICE.

THE co-partnership hitherto existing in Japan between GEORGE HURLBUT, W. J. BLYDENBURGH, S. E. HUNTINGTON and J. C. HEITMANN under the style and firm of SMITH, ARCHER & Co., is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

Mr. W. J. CRUICKSHANK will sign in Liquidation.

SMITH, ARCHER & Co.

Yokohama, May 11, 1874.

2ms.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

LATITUDE. 35° 25' 41" North.

LONGITUDE. 139° 39' 0" East.

OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.

Day of Week.	Day of Month.	OBSERVATIONS TAKEN AT 9 A.M. LOCAL TIME.														
		Barometer.	Attached Thermometer.	Hygrometer.					Wind.		Cloud. 0—10.	During past 24 hrs.				
				Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Dew Point.	Elastic force of Vapour.	Humidity 0—1.	Direction.	Force in lbs. per sq. ft.		Max. in air.	Min. in air.	Mean in air.	Rain in Inches.	Ozone.
Sat.	May. 9	29.86	54.5	55.0	47.0	38.5	.233	.538	N.	1.80	2	64.5	46.0	55.2	1.15	3.
Sun	" 10	30.23	57.5	57.0	51.0	45.7	.307	.660	N. N. E.	.55	2	67.0	40.5	53.7	.00	3.
Mon	" 11	30.23	57.5	57.5	55.0	53.1	.404	.833	calm.	.00	10	56.0	44.0	50.0	.00	3.
Tues	" 12	30.04	62.5	57.5	57.5	56.8	.462	.976	N. N. W.	.01	9	68.0	53.5	60.7	.00	5.
Wed	" 13	29.62	64.0	62.5	62.5	61.9	.554	.627	calm.	.00	9	66.5	54.5	60.5	.26	4.
Thurs	" 14	29.62	63.5	60.5	59.5	58.9	.497	.959	N.	2.50	8	67.0	54.5	60.7	.00	4.
Fri	" 15	29.83	60.5	60.0	52.5	46.0	.311	.501	N. E.	1.30	5	62.5	49.5	56.0	.00	4.
Mean		29.91	60.0	58.5	55.0	51.5	.395	.770		.88	6	64.5	48.9	56.6	.20	3.

CAMP, Yokohama, May 15th, 1874.

J. H. SANDWITH.—Lieut.,
R.M.L.I.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MESSRS. BOURNE & CO.

WILL SELL BY

PUBLIC AUCTION,

At their Rooms, No. 70,

MAIN STREET,

(Unless Previously Disposed of by Private Contract.)

IN MAY NEXT.

ALL that very VALUABLE and DESIRABLE PROPERTY, known as 24A., Water Street, containing 513 Tsuhoes as per Japanese Title and with the Buildings thereon consisting of a TWO STORIED DWELLING HOUSE with OUTHOUSES and STABLES.

Also,

The OFFICE and STONE GODOWN, both of which are TWO STORIED, the size of the latter is 90 feet by 40 feet or equal to 100 Tsuhoes. All the Buildings have been recently examined and found in thorough repair and sound condition.

The Ground Rent is paid up to 31st January, 1874.

The Property can be viewed and full particulars obtained by applying on the Premises or to the

AUCTIONEERS.

Yokohama, March 10, 1874.

NOTICE.

MR. JAMES C. FRASER is admitted a Partner in our Firm from this date.

SAUNDERS, NEEDHAM & Co.

Liverpool, January 1, 1874.

MR. JAMES C. FRASER having become a Partner in the Firm of Messrs. SAUNDERS, NEEDHAM & Co., of Liverpool his interest in the Firm of JAMES C. FRASER & Co., is now represented by Messrs. SAUNDERS, NEEDHAM & Co.

(Signed) { JAMES C. FRASER.
 { JAMES P. MOLLISON.

Yokohama, January 1, 1874.

WE have this day admitted Mr. EVAN J. FRASER to be a Partner in our Firm.

JAMES C. FRASER & Co.

Yokohama, January 1, 1874. F. 28.—dlw-w2m.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. LEOPOLD KAHN in our firm ceased on the 30th April last, and Mr. CHARLES KAHN is this day admitted a partner.

REISS & Co.

Hongkong, China and Japan,

May 2, 1874.

w. 1 w. & o. 3 ins.

NOTICE.

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. COLGATE BAKER and Mr. HOFFMAN ATKINSON in our firm ceased on 31st December, 1873.

SMITH, BAKER & Co.

Yokohama, January 31, 1874.

A. 24. 2ms.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Paid-up Capital.....5,000,000 Dollars.

Reserve Fund1,000,000 Dollars.

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ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:—

For 3 Months.....	3 per cent. per Annum.
" 6 "	4 per cent. " "
" 12 "	5 per cent. " "

Local Bills Discounted.

CREDITS granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange Business transacted.

DRAFTS granted on London, and the Chief Commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

HERBERT COPE,
Acting Manager.

Yokohama, May 1, 1874.

ABEL GUÉRINEAU,

ARCHITECT ET INGÉNIEUR CIVIL,

ELÈVE DIPLOMÉ

DE L'ÉCOLE DES BEAUX ARTS DE PARIS.

TEMPORARY OFFICES**NO. 32.**

Yokohama, May 16, 1874.

d. & w. tf.

**Reuter's Telegram Company,
(LIMITED.)**

THE Undersigned is prepared to receive messages for transmission to any part of the World to which there is telegraphic communication from Japan. Passengers wishing to telegraph their safe arrival in Europe from this, can do so on payment at this office of the sum of \$8. Arrangements are being made to extend this system to other countries.

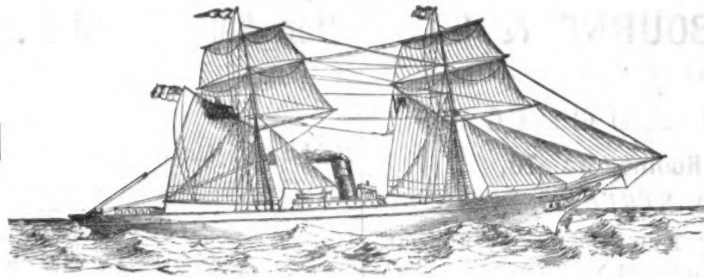
E. L. B. McMAHON,
Agent, No. 32.

Yokohama, April 25, 1874.

tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

IRON
STEAM
AND



SAIL-
ING
SHIPS.

COLE BROTHERS,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, ENGLAND,

Builders of all Classes of Iron Vessels up to the largest Dimensions.

TUGS, BARGES, &c.,

July 18, 1873.

IRON AND WOOD SHIPS REPAIRED.

52 ins.

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59, Pall Mall & 1, St. James' Street,

Printing } 45 & 46, St. Martin's Lane, Charing Cross,
Offices } 15 & 16, Gt. May's Buildings, London.

Yokohama, May 10, 1874.

26ins.

FRAUD.

On the 27th June, 1866, MOTEEWALLAH, a Printer, was con-
victed at the Supreme Court, Calcutta, of counterfeiting the

LABELS

Of Messrs. CROSSE & BLACKWELL,

London, and was sentenced by Mr. Justice Phair to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT;

And on the 30th of the same month, for

SELLING SPURIOUS ARTICLES

bearing Labels in imitation of Messrs. CROSSE & BLACKWELL'S
SHAIK BACHOO was sentenced, by the Suburban Magistrate at
Sealdah, to

TWO YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT.

CAUTION.—Any one selling spurious oilmen's stores, under Crosse & Blackwell's name, will be liable to the same punishment, and will be vigorously prosecuted. Purchasers are recommended to examine all goods carefully upon taking delivery of them, and to destroy all bottles and jars when emptied. The GENUINE Manufactures, the corks of which are all branded with Crosse & Blackwell's name, may be had from EVERY RESPECTABLE DEALER in India.

Yokohama, May 27, 1872.

12ms.

BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co.,

COLEMAN STREET, LONDON,

EXPORT DRUGGISTS,

MANUFACTURERS of every description of CHEMICAL, PHARMACEUTICAL, PHOTOGRAPHIC, and other PREPARATIONS. OIL PRESSERS, DISTILLERS OF ESSENTIAL OILS, DEALERS in Patent Medicines, SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS and Appliances, Glass Ware, Confectionery, Medical Books, and Shop Fittings, and every description of Druggists' Sundries, Paints, Colours, Dyes, &c., &c.

Upon application, Messrs. BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co. will forward their Price Current, containing more than Twenty Thousand prices.

Messrs. BURGOYNE, BURBIDGES & Co. are thoroughly conversant with the Japan Markets, and are prepared to receive commission orders for any articles of British Manufacture, and having made this an important branch of their business, they are enabled to select the cheapest and best goods, securing the extremest discounts; they likewise receive consignments of produce.

Yokohama, June 21, 1873.

52ins.

BETTS'S CAPSULE PATENTS.

To prevent infringements, notice is hereby given, that Betts's Name is on every Capsule he makes for the principal merchants in England and France, thus enabling vendor, purchaser, and consumer, not only to identify the genuineness of the Capsule, but likewise the contents of the vessel to which it is applied.

The LORD CHANCELLOR, in his judgment, said that the capsules are not used merely for the purpose of ornament, but that they are serviceable in protecting the wine from injury, and insuring its genuineness.

Manufactories:—1, Wharf-road, City-road, London, and; Bordeaux, France.

Yokohama, 6th July, 1872.

12m.

CAUTION.

BETTS'S PATENT CAPSULES.

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The public are respectfully cautioned that BETTS'S Patent Capsules are being Infringed.

BETTS'S name is upon every Capsule he makes for the leading Merchants at home and abroad,

and he is the ONLY INVENTOR and SOLE MAKER in the United Kingdom.

Manufactories:—1, Wharf-road, City-road, London, and Bordeaux, France.

Yokohama, 6th July, 1872.

12m.